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# RIGGING THE CLIMATE AGENDA

***What COP29 Was Really Like***
Andrew Muller

***Interview With Dr. Ron Paul***
William F. Jasper

***Democracy and the Left***
Steve Bonta

THE NEW AMERICAN
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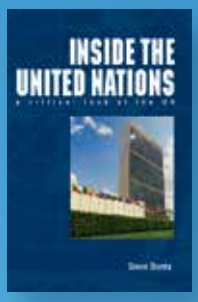
# Get US OUT! of the UNITED NATIONS



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Ray & Carol Clark

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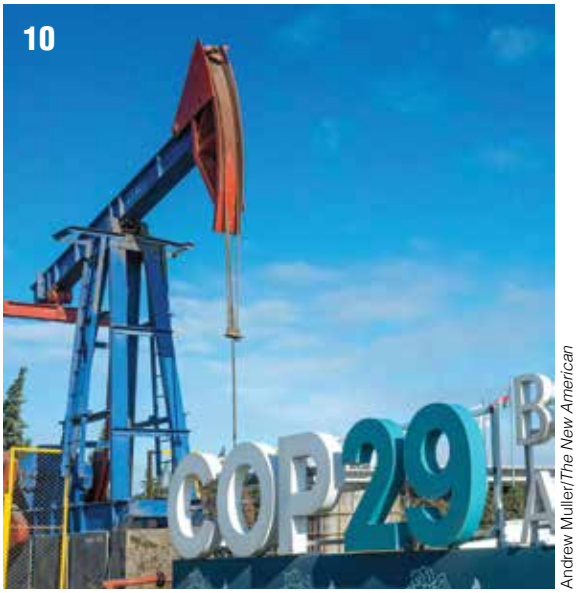


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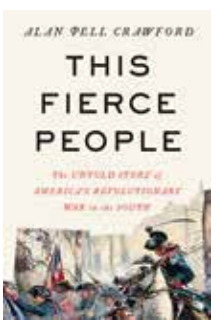


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# The Watchdogs — and the Lapdogs

The pen, it is said, is mightier than the sword. This is particularly the case when the pen is used to spread truth rather than falsehood, since the former is far more powerful a weapon than the latter.

This is also why a free press is so vitally important for preserving freedom. So long as the press is free, the truth can get out, and government corruption and overreach can be exposed and checked. Because of this important role, the press has often been referred to as "the Fourth Estate," a term that has been attributed to Edmund Burke, who reportedly said there were "three Estates" in the British Parliament, but "in the Reporters' Gallery yonder, there sat a Fourth Estate more important far than they all."

More powerful than the three branches of government? Wow!

But that only can be true if the press — or more broadly, the media — really functions as the watchdogs they are supposed to be. What if the watchdogs become lapdogs, serving the political class and regurgitating their propaganda, instead of barking up a storm at the first signs of the abuse of power? What then?

An example of the media serving as lapdogs of the powers-that-be is its shameful propagation of climate alarmism, which ludicrously includes demonizing carbon dioxide, the gas of life, as a poison and smearing anyone who disagrees with the official narrative as a "climate denier."

But not all media! *The New American* has long warned that the alarmism — which was over "global cooling" and a coming "ice age" before it was repackaged as "global warming" and, more recently, "climate change" — is not about saving the planet, but about shackling it under the guise of saving it.

In November, this magazine's Alex Newman and Andrew Muller attended as accredited journalists the latest United Nations Conference of the Parties climate-change conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, where the alarmism was on full display. So was the hypocrisy of the globe-trotting elites whose carbon footprints dwarf those of the peons they seek to control. And so was their radical green agenda, from the cap-and-trade program to reparations. The former provides a pretext for the elitists to consume all the energy they want while the rest of us are energy-starved and reduced to the level of serfs. The latter is just part of the money American and other taxpayers in the developed world are supposed to hand over to the kleptocrats in the undeveloped world to make amends for the environmental damage we've supposedly done to the planet.

At COP29, the major media lapdogs dutifully regurgitated the propaganda fed to them. On the other hand, *TNA* watchdogs Newman and Muller pulled back the curtain to reveal the truth behind the news. Their reporting, in the first three articles, is an example of the type of journalism that the Fourth Estate *should* be doing. It is also the type of journalism that our readers expect, not only to become informed, but also to make a difference.

* * *

**A note regarding our legacy subscribers:** When we increased our subscription price a year ago, we kept the price the same as before for our long-standing subscribers and called it a "legacy subscription." However, because of the continuing effects of inflation, we have made the difficult decision to phase out the legacy subscription rate. Going forward, these subscriptions will renew at our standard discounted rate of $59 per year for the print magazine.

— *Gary Benoit*

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## Maine Sues Oil Companies for Climate Change

On November 26, Maine Attorney General Aaron Frey, a Democrat, announced that the Pine Tree State is filing suit against several oil giants, alleging that they willingly hid the role of fossil fuels in climate change and put profits over the environment for more than half a century. The defendants are BP, Chevron, Exxon, Shell, Sunoco, and the American Petroleum Institute.

As a report in the November 27 *New York Times* explains, the suit alleges that Maine is the victim of the careless disregard that the oil companies showed when they continued to sell fossil fuels even though they knew that continued use of such fuels risked causing extreme weather effects, which adversely affected the state. Claimed Frey, "For over half a century, these companies chose to fuel profits instead of following their science to prevent what are now likely irreversible, catastrophic climate effects. In so doing, they burdened the State and our citizens with the consequences of their greed and deception."

Specifically, the suit avers that the oil companies ran afoul of state law due to their negligence, nuisance, trespass, unfair trade practices, and failure to warn about the consequences of fossil fuel use.

The defendants, of course, disagree with the accusations. Exxon, for instance, told the *Times* that the claims in Maine's lawsuit ignore "the state's historic dependence on oil and natural gas, do nothing to address the risks of climate change and waste

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taxpayer dollars," and Chevron called the suit "meritless state court litigation attacking essential energy production."

Around 20 states and localities have sued Big Oil for its supposed role in climate change.

Climate alarmists were encouraged in June when Hawaii chose to settle a lawsuit filed by climate scare group Our Children's Trust and promised to enact certain "climate friendly" measures. But Maine is suing the oil companies and expecting monetary compensation — not just concessions from a climate-friendly government. That hill is much harder to climb, and the state can expect fierce opposition from Big Oil.

## French TV Channel Fined Over Abortion Comments

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A French television channel was fined more than $100,000 and forced to apologize after it reported that abortion is the world's leading cause of death.

According to *The European Conservative* on November 21, a presenter on a Catholic program on news channel CNews "showed an infographic on the causes of death, ranking abortion as the leading cause, with 73 million deaths each year worldwide. That translates to 52% of annual deaths, far ahead of cancer (10 million) and smoking (6.2 million)." The mainstream media complained, claiming that "abortion cannot be considered a 'cause of death' because the fetus should not be considered a living being."

That backlash caused the Council of State, one of France's highest courts, to ask the Regulatory Authority for Audiovisual and Digital Communication (ARCOM) to investigate CNews over its alleged lack of "pluralism." As *The European Conservative* explained, "In France, television channels are subject to rules that govern the allocation of speaking time between political parties…. Media airtime should be divided as follows: one-third for the government, one-third for the majority, and one-third for the opposition."

The Council of State reasoned that the speaking time of CNews personalities should be similarly regulated. In other words, if the presenter spent 10 minutes reporting a pro-life story, a pro-abortion spokesperson should be given 10 minutes to argue the opposite. (Never mind the fact that CNews, along with another channel, C8, is owned by Catholic businessman Vincent Bolloré, not the state.)

After the many public attacks on the CNews infographic, the station felt compelled to apologize for ever having broadcast it and for having hurt some people's feelings by doing so. But that was not enough to satisfy ARCOM. The agency ultimately fined CNews more than $100,000, saying the channel failed in its "obligation of honesty and rigor in the presentation and processing of information." "Abortion," ARCOM declared, "cannot be presented as a cause of death."

*The European Conservative* reported that CNews and C8 "are the only channels ever to have been subject to financial penalties in France."

## Tom Homan Says He'd Put Denver Mayor in Jail

AP Images

Speaking on Fox News with Sean Hannity on November 26, Tom Homan, President-elect Donald Trump's pick for "border czar," said he'd be willing to put Denver Mayor Mike Johnston "in jail" if the latter obstructed the deportation efforts of federal law enforcement.

On November 20, Johnston had told news site Denverite that both the local police and residents of Denver "would likely resist a mass deportation effort from federal forces." "More than us having [the Denver Police Department] stationed at the county line to keep [the federal forces] out, you would have 50,000 Denverites there," he said.

According to Denverite, Johnston expects Denver residents to engage in civil disobedience if Trump proceeds with his deportation plans. He also indicated that he was willing to face legal consequences, including "going to jail," to oppose actions he believes are unjust and unlawful.

Answering a question on Fox News about whether Johnston, as mayor of a sanctuary city, was breaking the law, Homan said, "Absolutely." He continued, "[I] and the Denver mayor, we agree on one thing. He's willing to go to jail; I'm willing to put him in jail…. [Federal law says] it's a felony if you knowingly harbor and conceal an illegal alien from immigration authorities. It is also a felony to impede a federal law enforcement officer."

Homan emphasized that the Trump administration's focus while enforcing immigration laws would be on addressing public safety and national security threats, and expressed disbelief that any mayor would oppose the removal of individuals who pose risks to community safety. He also argued that sanctuary-city policies violate provisions in the Immigration and Nationality Act that prohibit harboring undocumented immigrants and bar local governments from restricting communication with federal authorities about immigration status.

Johnston reacted to Homan's threats by softening his previous remarks. Asked on a November 26 appearance on CNN's *OutFront* if he would order his police to resist Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents enforcing federal law, Johnston answered, "We won't use our law enforcement, and we don't think we need to."

---

## Harris Campaign Deceived Donors; Blew $1.5 Billion

Lindy Li, a member of the Democratic National Committee's Finance Committee, told Fox News on November 27 that Kamala Harris' campaign staffers had internal polling showing decisively that Harris could not win the presidential election, but kept that information from top Democrats and donors and spent $1.5 billion of their money anyway. "We were told definitely that she had a shot at winning — [but] it wasn't even a shot," said Li.

That was the opposite of what was presented by the pro-Harris mainstream media and polling partners, who all had Harris ahead of Donald Trump from the day she entered the race. However, from internal polling, campaign staffers knew the truth — that she was headed for a beating. Noted Fox: "While the top advisers on the campaign were apparently aware of Harris' polling deficit, this information was seemingly obscured to other relevant parties, including those soliciting capital from donors, such as Li. According to Li, it is 'absolutely not' normal for a campaign to obscure this type of information."

Harris campaign staffers lied by omission, and that lie cost a lot of people a lot of money.

On November 17, *The New York Times* revealed that the campaign spent $1.5 billion in 15 weeks. That's a whopping $100 million every seven days, or $14.3 million every 24 hours.

Harris burned at least $494 million from July 21 through October 16. That was spent "on producing and buying media, a category that includes both television and digital ads," including events with celebrities such as Lady Gaga and Beyoncé, and $2.5 million paid to Oprah Winfrey's production company. "The total sum through the election is said to be closer to $600 million," the *Times* reported.

AP Images

And Harris outspent Trump two to one, revealed the *Washington Examiner* on November 8, spending $654 million to Trump's $378 million from July 22 through November 5.

Despite the embarrassing loss and waste of money, though, Harris is telling her backers to stay ready, as she might run again in 2028 or try for California governor. ■

# QUICK QUOTES

"The federal government's single most important job is to keep dangerous people out of our country and instead it has let killers and rapists illegally cross our border and walk free on our streets."

*Tennessee Attorney General* **Jonathan Skrmetti** *announced victory in his state's lawsuit against U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Evidence exposed ICE's now-thwarted plan to release illegal aliens into Tennessee. However, the case also revealed that ICE has released more than 7,000 detainees in Louisiana, including nearly three dozen listed at the highest security-level threat, with charges including murder, rape, and kidnapping.*

"They're calling it the 'BRICS Bill' — a currency that many of the BRICS members want to use to replace the United States dollar as the international exchange currency for all foreign trading, which the dollar has been for more than a century."

*Energy consultant* **David Blackmon** *appeared on the Energy Realities podcast in October to discuss the recent summit held by leaders of the BRICS alliance of developing economies (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, and five other countries). He said that the combined GDP of these countries "now well exceeds" that of the G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States).*

"This fire spread at breakneck speed.... I believe that what has happened will make many people think and act."

*Reporting from Hesse, Germany, EuroNews quoted fire chief* **Norbert Fischer** *after a blaze destroyed his Stadtallendorf fire station. There was no fire alarm in the building. He hopes that the city will require improved protections at stations, though he failed to blame the culprit: an electric vehicle. EuroNews buried the admission midway through its article: "The fire broke out on an emergency vehicle belonging to the fire department, which contained lithium-ion batteries and an external power connection." Wouldn't it have been easier to simply say "electric fire truck"?*

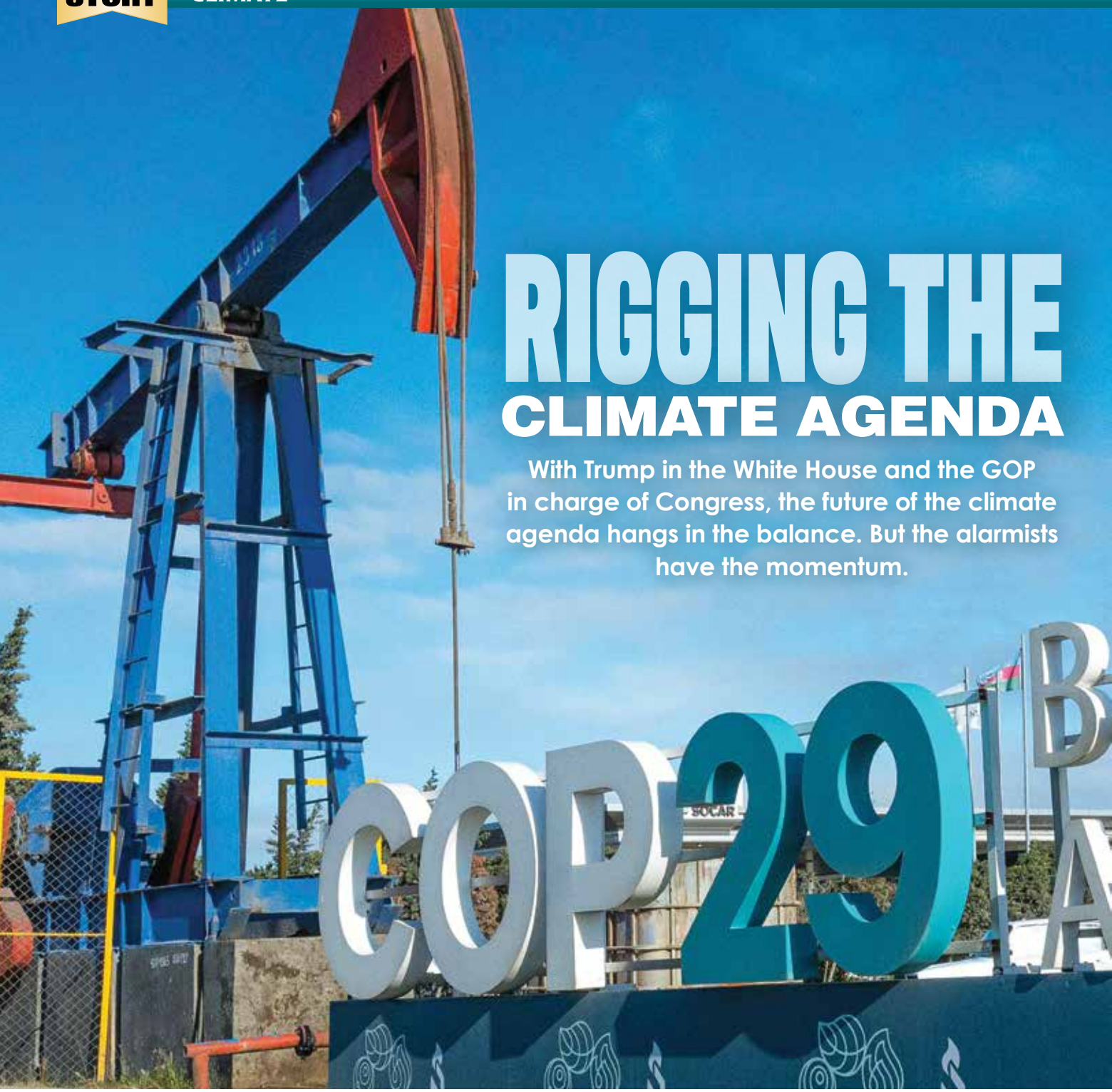
"Positive associations between initiation of CBMP [cannabis-based medicinal products] therapy and decreased fibromyalgia severity were observed at all time points, in keeping with the wider literature."

*The Imperial College London's Medical Cannabis Research Group, led by Dr.* **Surya Sridharan**, *published results of their research in the* Journal of Pain & Palliative Care Pharmacotherapy. *"Comparison of cannabis-based medicinal product formulations for fibromyalgia: A cohort study" found "sustained benefits" for patients and a significant reduction of reliance on prescription opioids.*

"These newly released texts are more evidence that Liz Cheney's J6 Committee was not interested in the truth, only in promoting their predetermined political narrative."

*In an interview with RealClearInvestigations, Representative* **Barry Loudermilk** *(R-Ga.) discussed his ongoing probe into the now-defunct January 6 Select Committee. He chairs the Subcommittee on Oversight for the Committee on House Administration, which published evidence in October indicating unethical conduct on Cheney's part: correspondence between the former Republican representative and her so-called star witness, Cassidy Hutchinson, while the latter was still a subject of Cheney's investigation. The new evidence prompted Hutchinson's former attorney, Stefan Passantino, to file a bar complaint against Cheney, who is a licensed attorney in Washington, D.C.*

***— Compiled by Rebecca Terrell***




# RIGGING THE CLIMATE AGENDA

**With Trump in the White House and the GOP in charge of Congress, the future of the climate agenda hangs in the balance. But the alarmists have the momentum.**

*by Alex Newman*

BAKU, Azerbaijan — It's the climate, stupid! The increasingly discredited hypothesis that human emissions of $CO_2$ are driving dangerous global warming underpins almost every key element of the globalist agenda. With the election of Donald Trump, that agenda now stands at an historic crossroads.

In the years to come, there are two possible futures. In one, humanity will face global totalitarian controls and a "multipolar" world order in which all roads lead to Beijing — an order that will rise from the ashes of the Western middle class and what used to be known as "Christendom" or the "Free World." The other alternative: a reckoning of historic proportions as mankind works to untangle one of the most spectacular frauds in human history.

Gathered at the recent United Nations climate summit (the 29th annual Conference of the Parties, or COP29), govern-

ments agreed to a massive agreement including rules for a UN-led global carbon market and trillions of dollars in wealth transfers to Third World kleptocrats (see article on page 15). But the whole scam is hanging by a thread. What happens in the next few months may determine which way humanity will go for decades. How that will turn out remains to be seen. But at COP29, there were clues everywhere.

On one side of the fork in the road stand U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, Argentinian President Javier Milei, and most Americans, who in polls reject the increasingly discredited man-made global-warming hypothesis. On the other side of the fork, making ever-more outrageous demands and pronouncements, is a massive coalition with vested interests. This includes the UN, Third World kleptocrats, megabanks, Big Oil, socialists, communists, Islamists, and their legions of tax-funded "useful idiots" who believe taxing and regulating the gas of life will improve Earth's temperature and lower sea levels.

Until November 5, 2024, it seemed as if the acceleration and ultimate success of the UN's climate agenda was practically inevitable. Trillions of dollars were in the pipeline. Governments worldwide largely agreed on the basics. Businesses, very much including Big Oil, were all jumping on the bandwagon. Profiteers, kleptocrats, cronies, AstroTurf groups, and countless others were lining up for a piece of the pie.

AP Images

**Stop the scam:** Donald Trump has become increasingly vocal about the need to destroy the man-made global-warming "hoax," but some of his key Cabinet picks are climate alarmists.

## Trump Rains on the Parade

But then, suddenly, much to the dismay of the Deep State and climate alarmists everywhere, voters reelected Trump. To say it threw the COP29 into disarray just days before its formal start would be an understatement. The climate movement alternated between moaning about the inevitable destruction of the planet, and vowing the preservation of the UN's climate process and resistance to Trump at all costs.

During his first term, Trump was a wrecking ball for climate alarmism, and for globalism more broadly. For instance, he famously ended U.S. involvement in the controversial UN Paris Agreement. Under the scheme, the U.S. government pledged to decimate its economy while Communist China vowed to keep building coal-fired power plants until at least 2030. His second term is likely to be even more brutal to the climate agenda.

Trump took aim at climate alarmism more than a decade ago, calling it a hoax to benefit the Chinese Communist Party. Since leaving office, though, he has declared that the climate "hoax" will be a top target. "One of the most urgent tasks, not only for our movement, but for our country, is to decisively defeat the climate hysteria hoax," he argued during a 2022 talk in Florida in which he lambasted green energy and the alarmism surrounding $CO_2$.

The president-elect also ridiculed sea-level prognostications. "The ocean is rising. It's rising. It's coming. It's ... within 300 years. We're going to gain one-hundredth of an inch in the ocean and have a little more beachfront property," Trump said, making fun of wind turbines, solar panels, and other costly and inefficient green energy schemes. "It's going to be a terrible thing. No, it's a hoax. The whole thing is a total hoax.... It's so crazy."

He hit the fraud hard on the campaign trail, too. "We don't have a global warming problem; they don't use that term anymore," he said. "At certain points it starts to cool a little bit ... so they changed it. You know what the term is? Climate change. This way, if it gets warmer ... if it gets cooler, if it rains, if snow comes down in the middle of the summer, it's climate change…. And we've spent trillions and trillions of dollars ... putting windmills all over these magnificent plains, and fields, and valleys, and oceans.... It's all a big hoax."

Many of Trump's top officials have echoed those concerns. His former climate advisor, Dr. William Happer, a physicist from Princeton, told *The New American* that efforts to control $CO_2$ are reminiscent of Soviet-style absurdities. "$CO_2$ is actually good for the world, and people should be encouraged to make more of it," he said in an interview last year.

Energy secretary nominee Chris Wright agrees with Trump. Among other concerns, he has pointed out the dishonesty of alarmists who falsely claim that hurricanes, floods, droughts, and other natural disasters are increasing in frequency. Wright, a businessman in oil and gas, consistently ridicules green energy schemes, too.

Speaking to this writer shortly before the election, former Trump EPA Chief of Staff Mandy Gunasekara warned that the gloves would be coming off on the climate front in Trump's second term. "I do think that President Trump will understand and not be burdened by insignificant arguments that, 'oh, we need a seat at this table,' or, 'oh, this is really going to matter in terms of our relationship for other international issues,'" she said. "I think the gloves will absolutely come off."

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*Alex Newman is a senior editor of* The New American*, and author of* Deep State: The Invisible Government Behind the Scenes *and* Indoctrinating Our Children to Death.

Noting that the Paris accord is underpinned by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) — a treaty "ratified" by the U.S. Senate in 1992 under questionable circumstances — Gunasekara said the next administration would think bigger than last time around. "We need to get out," she said of the UNFCCC. "And Trump has the tools to get out of that treaty, which is going to shut down a lot of the derivative shenanigans."

Another blow to the COP agenda came when Argentinian President Milei, who has ridiculed the man-made warming theory as a "socialist lie," summoned his government's "climate" negotiators home in the first week of the summit. No official reason was given, but it was widely understood that the decision came the day after Milei spoke with Trump. Argentina is now expected to withdraw from the Paris accord, too.

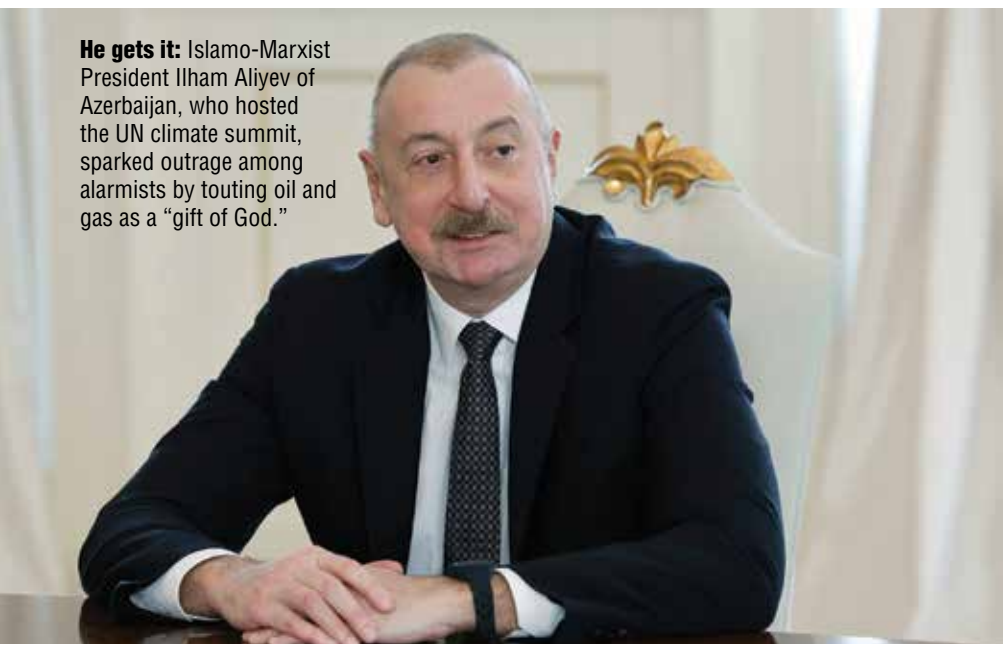
With a GOP majority in both houses of Congress, climate alarmists are right to be worried. While a handful of "Republicans in Name Only" (RINOs) have jumped on the bandwagon, they represent a fringe view within the party and are likely to be under tremendous pressure from their unbelieving and increasingly impoverished constituents.

The alarmism has also received multiple blows in recent years from COP leaders themselves. While the UN and its members agreed on paper at COP28 last year in Dubai to "phase out" fossil fuels, oil and gas deals were being made at COP29 by Chinese communists, Arabs, and others. COP29 host Ilham Aliyev, the Islamo-Marxist dictator of Azerbaijan, even called oil and gas a "gift of God" in his opening remarks.

## Resistance, Momentum, and GOP Surrender?

Despite Trump's well-known opposition to the alarmism, there were still signs of hope for alarmists. For instance, five GOP congressmen attended COP29 to show support for the Biden administration's climate agenda. The Republican lawmakers, led by U.S. Representative August Pfluger (R-Texas), publicly expressed support for reducing emissions of $CO_2$ and even the fraudulently named Inflation Reduction Act, known as the most significant climate legislation in history.

"As we engage with our international partners here at COP29, it's crucial to work together to promote solutions that prioritize energy security and environmental responsibility," he said, constantly touting reductions in $CO_2$ as if it were pollution. If any policies from the Biden administration and Democratic lawmakers are "not congruent or not in support of lowering energy costs while *reducing emissions*, you bet this Congress will take a look at that," he added, promising to preserve parts of the Inflation Reduction Act.



**He gets it:** Islamo-Marxist President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan, who hosted the UN climate summit, sparked outrage among alarmists by touting oil and gas as a "gift of God."

AP Images

The GOP lawmakers' embrace of alarmism suggests Democrats' predictions last year were eerily prescient. At COP28 in Dubai, this writer asked a delegation of seven U.S. senators how they could make credible climate pledges considering the prospect of Trump returning to power in a year and the fact that in polls most Americans reject the man-made global-warming hypothesis.

Senator Chris Coons (D-Del.), who responded to the question at the urging of Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Ben Cardin (D-Md.), touted the "tens of billions of [tax] dollars" flowing to GOP-controlled states and congressional districts under the Inflation Reduction Act.

"Am I suggesting that, were the former president to be our next president, everything would be fine? No," responded Coons before touting tax funds going to $CO_2$-reduction schemes in GOP areas. "But I'm saying that there is a broad enough and deep enough support for continuing investments to combat climate change and for the Inflation Reduction Act and the Bipartisan Infrastructure law.… We'll continue to move forward regardless."

That's not all. Unfortunately for climate realists, there are even some key officials in Trump's incoming administration who have been vocal in support for climate alarmism. EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin was one of fewer than two dozen GOP congressmen to join a "climate" caucus in Congress. Department of Government Efficiency Co-Chairman Elon Musk has been a frequent proponent of carbon taxes and carbon markets. And commerce secretary nominee Howard Lutnick's company Cantor Fitzgerald is a key player in the "industry."

That does not even begin to address powerful efforts by activists, UN globalists, business leaders, and Democrats at the local, state, and federal levels vowing to do whatever it takes to keep the climate agenda on track. The UN's climate czar, Simon Stiell, echoed a common theme heard at the last few climate summits: nothing can stop this now. "The shift to clean-energy and climate-resilience will not be stopped," he announced at COP29. "Our job is to accelerate this and make sure its huge benefits are shared by all countries and all peoples."

That seems to be the tone taken by other

climate activists. "There is no denying that another Trump presidency will stall national efforts to tackle the climate crisis and protect the environment, but most U.S. state, local, and private sector leaders are committed to charging ahead," said World Resources Institute U.S. Director Dan Lashof.

The last time Trump was president, a significant coalition of alarmist governors, mayors, and business leaders from across the country — almost exclusively left-wing Democrats — formed a coalition called "We Are Still In" to continue playing along with the UN climate process. While it did not totally fill the gap left by the withdrawal of federal money and power, it helped. COP29 attendees involved in the effort told *The New American* this would continue in Trump's second term.

Indeed, former EPA boss and Biden climate advisor Gina McCarthy, who serves as co-chair of the "America Is All In" coalition of alarmist state and city governments, vowed that nothing would stop the climate juggernaut. "No matter what Trump may say, the shift to clean energy is unstoppable and our country is not turning back," she claimed. "Our coalition is bigger, more bipartisan, better organized, and fully prepared to deliver climate solutions, boost local economies and drive climate ambition. We cannot and will not let Trump stand in the way of giving our kids and grandkids the freedom to grow up in safer and healthier communities."

Architects of the Paris accord also sounded optimistic about the prospect of keeping the alarmism going even without the U.S. government funding it all for the next four years. "The US election result is a setback for global climate action, but the Paris agreement has proven resilient and is stronger than any single country's policies," said European Climate Foundation chief Laurence Tubiana.

Claiming recent hurricanes highlight the seriousness of alleged climate change, she said the "transition" would continue with or without Trump. "The context today is very different to 2016," said Tubiana, who played a key role in creating the Paris scheme. "There is powerful economic momentum behind the global transition, which the U.S. has led and gained from, but now risks forfeiting."

Efforts are already underway to keep the United States ensnared in the UN's climate scheming despite the election, too. Bloomberg News, founded by radical climate alarmist and $CO_2$-spewing billionaire Michael Bloomberg, noted that "worried stakeholders" are working frantically to mitigate the damage Trump might be able to do following COP29.

AP Images

**Power-hungry:** Johan Rockström, one of the most overt advocates of global tyranny to save the climate, called for drastic reforms to the process to further empower the UN.

"Officials from Maryland and California have met with Chinese officials to discuss continued climate collaboration at the subnational level, allowing state and local governments to pick up any slack," Bloomberg reported. "Some state representatives were part of meetings in Beijing in September while the chief US climate negotiator, John Podesta, engaged in talks with his Chinese counterpart."

## From COP Negotiation to COP Mandates

In any case, change is coming. Even the most loyal devotees of the UN's climate process are calling for sweeping reforms of the whole structure. According to a coalition of scientists, activists, and policy bigwigs, the process is "no longer fit for purpose and requires comprehensive overhaul to ensure planetary stability and a liveable future for humanity."

The group, which issued the statement during COP29, included Executive Chair of Earth4All and Global Ambassador of the Club of Rome Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research boss Johan Rockström, former UN chief Ban Ki-moon, former UN climate czar Christiana Figueres, former Irish President Mary Robinson, and more.

"It is now clear that the COP is no longer fit for purpose," the coalition said in a letter to the current UN climate czar. "We need a shift from negotiation to implementation." In other words, enough talk; it is time to start enforcing the climate agenda regardless of what people's elected representatives think, because the "crisis" is simply too urgent to wait.

"We need a COP process that offers delivery, not delay. We demand COPs that are platforms for government and stakeholder ambition, not enablers of fossil energy contracts and growing greenhouse gas emissions," complained Dixson-Declève with the powerful Club of Rome, a key group for globalists and communists using environmental concerns to advance global tyranny. "After 28 COPs, time is up on negotiations that don't foster action and implementation."

Among other demands, the climate luminaries called for strengthening the UN's ability to "hold countries accountable" to "climate targets." They also demanded a comprehensive tracking system to monitor and document how much

Andrew Muller/*The New American*

**Holy war:** The UN is openly working to conscript the world's religions and religious leaders in the war against $CO_2$, with the "faith pavilion" right at the heart of the climate summit.

money Western governments were looting from their taxpayers to redistribute for climate purposes.

Rockström, one of the most outspoken climate totalitarians, demanded immediate and drastic changes to every element of life under the direction and guidance of the UN. "There is still a window of opportunity for a safe landing for humanity, but this requires a global climate policy process that can deliver change at exponential speed and scale," he argued.

### Longer Term: Religion, Education, Censorship, Health

Adding credence to threats by Democrats and even some Republicans that the climate agenda will march on regardless of Trump or American voters, the UN and its allies are clearly planning for the long term. From recruiting religious leaders and integrating alarmism into public-health policies, to supercharging indoctrination programs aimed at children, the climate movement is clearly playing the long game. Their plan is brilliant.

Tyrants have understood for more than a century that indoctrinating children in government schools is one of their most powerful tools. The UN understands that, too. And it is moving quickly to ensure that every child on the planet is indoctrinated to believe not just in climate alarmism, but also that the UN and its efforts are the key to solving this alleged problem.

Meeting during the second week of the UN COP29 summit, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its partners announced the weaponization of standardized international testing schemes. The goal is simple: ensure "climate change" indoctrination of all children worldwide by putting it on the global assessment known as the "Programme for International Student Assessment" (PISA).

Azerbaijani Education Minister Emin Amrullayev was one of the key players at the COP29 "Greening Education and Climate Resilience" event. And he boasted of what was happening. "This involves incorporating climate literacy into educational standards," he said. "The PISA platform is already a trusted global benchmark, and the new focus on climate literacy has the potential to spark change around the world."

On religion, the UN and its allies are working hard to bring "faith leaders" from all religions into the fold. Speaking to *The New American* at COP29's "Faith Pavilion," former UN Environment Programme chief Erik Solheim boasted about the UN environmental agency's "Faith for Earth" initiative that he played a key role in launching and that is bringing religious leaders worldwide together on this.

Solheim, who spent more than $500,000 of tax money on hotels and travel, called on religious leaders everywhere to get their followers involved in "climate action." Badly mangling the Bible, he made a bizarre "biblical" case that Christians have a duty to join the bandwagon. He also used multiple false assertions to argue that the "transition" is inevitable anyway.

Another long-term play through which climate hysteria is being advanced is in the realm of "public health." As COP29 President Mukhtar Babayev argued in the far-left U.K. *Guardian*, "We must treat the climate crisis with the same urgency as Covid — history shows it can be done." "This emergency will cost trillions of dollars," he added, echoing countless calls in recent years to use Covid-style policies to fight the "climate crisis."

As if on cue, World Health Organization boss Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus took the opportunity at COP29 to echo his remarks at previous climate summits. "Climate change is the defining health challenge of our time," he said. "It affects every dimension of health." Asked by *The New American* about this later, the World Health Organization's director of health and climate change, Dr. Maria Neira, said that "climate change represents global warming, and global warming creates perfect conditions for certain diseases."

Finally, with the U.S. government potentially out of the picture for the next four years, the EU and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) are forging closer links to keep the ship together. This was openly acknowledged as alarmists tried to shame Americans into remaining involved to avoid surrendering the "climate leadership" role to the CCP. And yet the CCP continues to bring an estimated two coal-fired power plants online each week.

As *The New American* has been documenting for years, the climate agenda is foundational to the globalist effort to build the New World Order. It underpins the political, economic, and religious elements of this plan. As such, from the Deep State's perspective, it is *indispensable* to everything. Trump has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to smash it once and for all — and he seems inclined to do so. It will require massive public pressure, but it can be done. Now is the time for real action from patriots everywhere. ■

# THE COP29 DEAL

## CARBON MARKETS & TRILLIONS IN REPARATIONS

The new UN climate agreement aims to destroy the Western middle class, reshape the global economy, and bring about a New World Order.

AP Images

**Extortion:** With global rules adopted at COP29 for a UN-run carbon market to reduce, cap, and trade $CO_2$, it may be only a matter of time until enforced poverty reigns supreme.

***by Alex Newman***

BAKU, Azerbaijan — After two weeks of negotiations at the UN's 29th annual Conference of the Parties (COP29) climate summit, the UN and its member governments agreed to rules for a global carbon market led by the UN itself. The scheme will put a price on emissions of the gas of life, carbon dioxide ($CO_2$), and allow it to be traded. UN bosses called it a "base to build on."

The final deal, inked over the weekend of November 23-24, also saw Western governments pledge $1.3 trillion per year in climate wealth transfers by 2035. The money for Third World kleptocracies and climate profiteers will come from what remains of the middle class in the West. The UN claims these reparations are to compensate for "loss and damage" supposedly caused by $CO_2$.

Of that sum, about $300 billion annually will be in the form of grants and low-interest loans for "climate reparations," starting immediately. That represents a tripling of previous pledges. The rest of the funding will come from government-backed "investments" and potential new international taxes on fuels or aviation in the years ahead.

The most important part of the deal involves the UN's carbon market schemes. "This will be a game-changing tool to direct resources to the developing world and help us save up to $250 billion a year when implementing our climate plans," explained COP29 lead negotiator Yalchin Rafiyev, deputy foreign minister for the Islamo-Marxist regime of Azerbaijan.

"When operational, these carbon markets will help countries implement their climate plans faster and cheaper, driving down emissions," he continued. "We are a long way from halving emissions this decade. But wins on carbon markets here at COP29 will help us get back in that race."

UN Secretary-General António Guterres, former leader of the Socialist International, also said the deal was a good start. "I had hoped for a more ambitious outcome — on both finance and mitigation — to meet the great challenge we face. But this agreement provides a base on which to build," he said in a statement after the deal was signed.

"It must be honored in full and on time," continued Guterres, touting "multilateralism" (better known to Americans as globalism). "Commitments must quickly become cash. All countries must come together to ensure the top-end of this new goal is met…. I appeal to governments to see this agreement as a foundation — and build on it."

UN climate boss Simon Stiell emphasized that the agreement is merely the next step on the road to even more grandiose grabs for money and power. "This is no time for victory laps," said Stiell. "We need to set our sights and redouble our efforts on the road to [COP30 in the Brazilian city of] Belém."

In his final statement on the summit, Islamo-Marxist dictator Ilham Aliyev boasted of success. "I consider the 'Baku breakthrough' as a triumph of multilateralism," he said, celebrating the confab's approval of rules for the UN's carbon markets and wealth redistribution. "The COP29 is a turning point in the climate diplomacy."

With Donald Trump's reelection, COP29 attendees despaired about the looming departure of the U.S. government and its taxpayers' money from the UN climate process. The president-elect has repeatedly ridiculed the man-made

**Bragging rights: The Biden administration's delegation to COP29, including White House climate advisor Ali Zaidi, embraced the UN deal and boasted of how much U.S. taxpayer money it has already spent.**

AP Images

global-warming hypothesis as a "fraud," a "scam," and a "hoax," and recently said that destroying the scam must be a priority.

Some of Trump's Cabinet nominees, including Energy Secretary Chris Wright, have echoed the president-elect's hostility to climate alarmism. However, a delegation of five GOP congressmen arrived at COP29 to assure the climate negotiators that they all support parts of Biden's climate agenda, including emissions reductions.

Predictably, Third World governments expressed everything from disappointment to outrage. Apparently, Western governments should have agreed to hand over even larger sums. Mostly-tax-funded climate activists also fumed about the alleged lack of "climate justice" in the deal.

The charade at this year's summit played out just as it does every year. First, climate activists funded by governments make outrageous demands on those same governments. Next, governments pledge to do somewhat less than what was demanded, making them look moderate by comparison. Wash, rinse, repeat.

This year was no exception to the formula. Governments and kleptocrats ruling over "developing countries" — many of them flown to the conference and put in nice hotels by Western governments at taxpayer expense — could barely contain their disgust at the final numbers in the agreement. Some governments even claimed to feel "insulted."

"This is definitely not enough," complained the Panamanian climate envoy quoted in media reports. "What we need is at least $5 trillion a year, but what we have asked for is just $1.3 trillion. That is one percent of global GDP. That should not be too much when you're talking about saving the planet we all live on."

Countless delegates quoted in media reports also expressed shock at the allegedly "paltry" sum. Speaking for African governments, Sierra Leone's top delegate said the agreed-upon wealth transfer "signals a lack of goodwill by developed countries." In fact, it is "less than a quarter of what science shows is needed," he claimed.

So-called nongovernmental groups also moaned to any media outlet that would quote them, though they acknowledged some progress for their agenda. "Despite major headwinds, negotiators in Baku eked out a deal that at least triples climate finance flowing to developing countries," said Ani Dasgupta, leader of the far-left World Resources Institute.

"The $300 billion [climate reparations] goal is not enough, but is an important down payment toward a safer, more equitable future," he continued. "The agreement recognizes how critical it is for vulnerable countries to have better access to finance that does not burden them with unsustainable debt."

Still, the European Union, which will have to cover much of the bill if the U.S. government exits as planned, sounded a positive note. The deal will "bring much, much more private money on the table, and that is what we need," said an EU representative quoted by the UN. "And with these funds, we are confident we will reach the $1.3 trillion objective."

However, critics of the whole process ridiculed it all. "That monstrous portions of all this spending will end up in the pockets of climate kleptocrats, with little or no impact on the temperature of the Earth, doesn't enter into it," warned Craig Rucker, who leads the free-market-oriented environmental group Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow.

Rucker, who has attended most of the last 25 UN climate summits, called on Trump to "net zero" the United States out of the climate meetings. "Let's see how eager Canada, Europe, Japan and Australia are to continue throwing good money after bad if the U.S. calls 'game over' and departs the field," he added.

In interviews with *The New American* from the summit (available online), Rucker and ClimateDepot.com publisher Marc Morano both argued that the wheels were coming off the UN climate bandwagon. While Morano had some concerns about GOP weakness and various Trump nominees, he called the final outcome a "COP FLOP" that did not do much to advance their objectives.

The Biden administration, though, signed on to the deal and even bragged about the billions of U.S. taxpayer funds (and borrowed money) it spent — and will continue to spend — on climate schemes. It also happily outlined various plans to squeeze every penny possible out of U.S. taxpayers before January 20, knowing it cannot bind Trump or the incoming Congress. Representatives of the U.S. government repeatedly refused to answer questions from *The New American*.

COP29 represents another stride forward for the UN's climate program. Globalism, technocracy, shredding what's left of the Western middle class, and other agendas all got a boost. Although all of that was merely preparation for the much greater leap forward planned at next year's UN climate summit in Brazil, the rules for carbon markets and the huge sums for "reparations" represent a significant triumph for the UN. ■

# BEHIND THE FACADE

## WHAT COP29 WAS REALLY LIKE

While the UN's COP29 climate summit boasts the veneer of saving the world from "man-made global warming," the real agenda is achieving one-world government.

The New American

**COP29 watchdogs: Alex Newman (left) and Andrew Muller at the entrance to the COP29 conference center**

***by Andrew Muller***

BAKU, Azerbaijan — It was hard to find the COP29 climate summit through all the oil rigs in Baku, Azerbaijan.

My colleague Alex Newman, a senior editor for *The New American* magazine, and I were on site reporting at the UN's 29th annual Conference of the Parties (COP) climate summit from November 13-16, 2024.

The entire conference had a veneer of "saving the planet" from alleged "man-made climate change." But once the curtain was pulled back, it became clear that the climate movement and COP29 have nothing to do with bettering the environment and everything to do with globalism.

*Andrew Muller is a writer, researcher, and speaker on America's religious and constitutional heritage with the specific goal of sharing a biblical worldview and Americanism.*

### Going Off the Prepared Path

A petrostate roughly the size of Maine, Azerbaijan borders the Caspian Sea and is sandwiched between Russia and Iran. Ninety percent of the nation's exports are petroleum products, and as I looked out the airplane window while we descended upon the capital city of Baku, I saw countless offshore oil rigs.

QR codes were posted all over the airport soliciting visitors to "Offset your travel carbon footprint." For our journey, the UN suggested that we donate $115.42 to their "high impact climate initiatives" to make up for our $CO_2$ emissions.

While preparing to leave the airport, Newman and I debated whether or not we should grab our reserved rental car. As we were in an Islamic-Marxist dictatorship known for its hostility toward journalists, the thought of wrestling with the country's legal system over a violation of traffic laws or an unforeseen automotive accident led us to decide to not acquire the vehicle.

We decided to hail a taxi or hop on a UN bus instead. Suddenly, though, a sweaty Azeri man named Usef rushed up to us, holding a sign saying "Alex Newman." He was from the rental-car company and just happened to bump into us on our way out. Seeing this as quite a coincidence, we decided to go with it. Perhaps having the car would be to our benefit.

Quickly, Newman and I discovered that private transportation in Azerbaijan is rather difficult. Nearly every journalist and attendee opted for UN buses and taxis for travel, which exclusively traversed pristinely manicured roads swept by poor-looking Azerbaijanis. The city of Baku prepared "COP29 lanes" on the highway where "green" buses would shuttle delegates, NGOs, observers, activists, and press from their hotels to the conference.

Newly erected walls lined the roads, blocking any view of the outside world, alongside fresh greenery that looked as though it was just planted.

Our transportation independence allowed us to see what was behind those walls and beyond the path prepared for COP29 attendees.

### Drill, Baby, Drill

We packed our gear, straightened out our ties, and headed to COP29 after getting some rest from two days of travel and enduring a nine-hour time change. Satellite navigation in Azerbaijan is weak at best,

but we were able to find a few routes to make it to the Baku Olympic Stadium, where the summit was held.

By accident, Newman and I took an alternative route to the convention center, driving through what can only be described as slums and extreme poverty. Packs of wild dogs roamed the streets and children set up wooden carts to sell fish caught from the Caspian Sea. On this route, there were no COP29 bus lanes, neatly manicured flowerbeds, or walls to hide communities. We were in the real, non-UN-approved Azerbaijan.

As we drove down the road, we started to see steel on the horizon, moving slowly up and down for as far as the eye could see. Slowing down and pulling off to the side, we found ourselves surrounded by red- and blue-painted pumpjacks extracting liquid gold.

A randomly placed COP29 sign was planted among the pumpjacks. Seeing this as an incredible opportunity to take a photograph, I discreetly pulled out my camera and snapped a few shots, an action that could have landed us in serious trouble. The UN and the Azerbaijani government sent out an email to the press before the conference, instructing all attendees to keep their photography, videography, and journalism within the walls of the convention center. If you wanted to go beyond that, you had to register the activity with the Azerbaijani government. To further send home the point, large signs were posted in the oil fields depicting a crossed-out camera and demanding that no photos be taken.

The UN worked hand-in-glove with the Azerbaijani government to conceal the nation's oil industry and redirect all attendees to their "yellow brick road" route to COP29. If we did not get our rental car, we would have never seen what the UN was trying to hide from the world.

It might appear hypocritical that the UN would host a summit dedicated to phasing out oil and gas in a nation that literally exists because of oil and gas. But when you consider that the agenda is not environmental action but political action to achieve a one-world government, a proposition the Azerbaijani regime approves of, the scam becomes apparent.

## Behold, the Whale

"There is no parking," a UN volunteer told us in broken English as we searched for a place to park our rental car at the Olympic Stadium. How could there be no parking for an event that welcomes more than 60,000 people from all over the world? According to Newman, who has been attending COP events for more than a decade, parking is typically available. At COP28 in the United Arab Emirates, parking space was plentiful and very close to the event center.

This roadblock allowed us to go and see a spectacle that made international news: a sperm whale carcass found beached along the Caspian Sea just miles away from COP29. We didn't know the exact location of the creature, but I was able to locate the scene using an image from social media that showed recognizable Baku skyscrapers in the background.

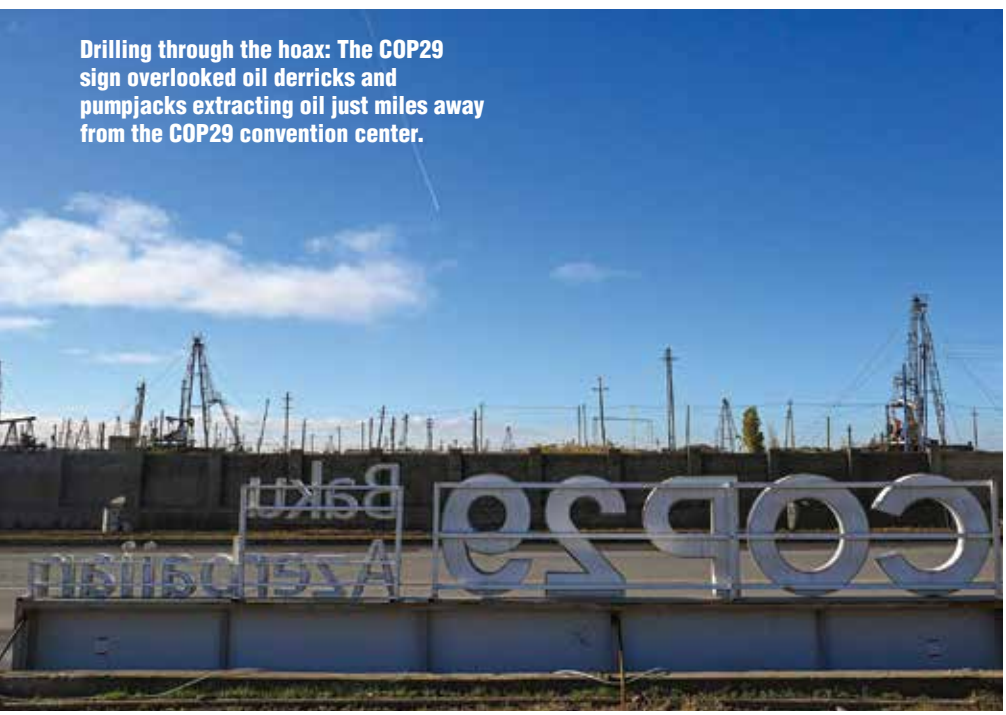
The 52-foot sperm whale was lying near a sidewalk in the downtown area, gated off and surrounded mainly by confused Azeri people. Individuals wearing white jumpsuits bearing a seal that read "International Whale Association" (IWA) were taking samples of the mammal and fielding questions from anyone who showed curiosity.

"We found him three days ago," one of the scientists told us. "He was swimming here around in the Caspian Sea, which is an incredible fact because they don't live here."

When pressed about the whale's cause of death, the scientist said, "It has something to do with climate change…. It is certainly a sign that we have problems climate-wise worldwide." He said it was a "good coincidence that the whale is here during the COP29."

The scientist refused to touch our microphone or shake our hands because he did not want to contaminate us with the bacteria from the whale. We asked him what his name was, and if IWA had a website; he became uncomfortable and invited us into their trailer nearby to talk in private. We climbed into the trailer; he shut the door, took off his gloves, and shook our hands. "I'm actually a jazz pianist," the "scientist" told us. He explained that the whale is an art exhibit that travels around the world, attempting to incite fear among those who look upon the fake carcass.

We pressed for more information. He said he was from Belgium and that the stunt was a project conducted by a group called Captain Boomer Collective. He grabbed a piece of sheet music and scribbled some websites on the back of it. "Don't give out the website in the video," the actor said, "otherwise, people will find out this is a hoax."




**Drilling through the hoax: The COP29 sign overlooked oil derricks and pumpjacks extracting oil just miles away from the COP29 convention center.**

Andrew Muller/*The New American*

**Whale of a hoax: A 52-foot fake sperm whale was placed on the beach by Belgian artists, in tandem with the UN and the Azerbaijani government, to frighten people about the effects of climate change.**

Andrew Muller/*The New American*

The "beached whale is a gigantic metaphor for the disruption of our ecological system," Captain Boomer Collective's website states. "People feel their bond with nature is disturbed. The game between fiction and reality reinforces this feeling of disturbance."

As to why they do it, the group says that "it stirs and mobilizes a local community" to take climate action and that the deception creates "funny games." We observed some of those "games" when the Azeri people walked away genuinely believing that a 52-foot, wretched-smelling sperm whale washed up on their beach because of climate change (ignoring the fact that there is no way a sperm whale, or any whale for that matter, could have gotten into the landlocked Caspian Sea, thousands of miles from their natural habitat).

The "scientist" actors knew nothing about actual threats to whales, such as wind turbines. While in Baku, Newman and I caught up with Craig Rucker, the president of the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT), whose organization filed a lawsuit in March 2024 against Dominion Energy to stop the construction of wind turbines in Virginia.

"Since they've started the pile driving, where they need to pound the ocean and put these platforms in, there has been a 400-percent increase in whale deaths that have occurred, beachings, and everything else," Rucker told Newman. If wind turbines are not stopped, he said, we might see the wiping out of entire species such as the endangered right whale.

The Azerbaijani government worked with Captain Boomer Collective to make this hoax possible and incite fear in passersby while drumming up media attention. Rather than this stunt accomplishing what its conspirators wanted — creating fear that the world is collapsing under climate change — it serves to expose the UN's agenda and its method of imposing it.

The climate-change narrative is not about the environment, whales, or $CO_2$ — it is about control. The UN uses fake crises, such as this beached-whale hoax, to instill fear. They control the problem and the solution, and this gives them global power.

## Authentic Activism Dies at COP

The UN historically has allowed "observers" — activists fall under this category — to come into COP for the full duration of the conference. Lately, however, it has been severely restricting the number of observers, even discouraging them from attending at all.

"It has been more restrictive," Philip McMaster, a climate activist, told me. McMaster, a Canadian college professor who lives in Hong Kong, has attended the last 10 COP climate events. Best known for dressing up as Santa Claus, McMaster has made a name for himself as "SustainaClaus," riffing off the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

He carries around stuffed animals that are holding up three fingers — a symbol for "peace plus one trillion" — as he advocates for developed nations to give one trillion dollars to the Global South to combat "man-made global warming."

If achieving climate action is the goal, SustainaClaus should be welcomed by the UN. He garners attention, he is personable and funny, and, most importantly, he believes wholeheartedly in the climate-change narrative and gets people talking. Yet, the UN is limiting even him from speaking out and attending COP events. "Even my badges, I used to get two weeks ... [then] I got like one week ... [then] I got like three days," McMaster told me, summarizing his experience over the years. "When I first came here [to COP29], I got one day."

SustainaClaus differs from the UN in this: He is not loyal to the notion that the UN's agenda is the only solution. Communicating his frustration with the globalist bureaucracy, he told me that perhaps it is time to "decentralize, get out of this nation-state UN pecking order…. I do not think it is working anymore."

Marc Morano, the publisher of CFACT's award-winning ClimateDepot.com, has been a longtime COP attendee, appearing at 21 out of the last 23 UN summits. At COP22 in Marrakech, Mo-

Andrew Muller/*The New American*

**Pushing the hoax: "**SustainaClaus" Philip McMaster (left) walked about COP29 holding up three fingers, representing "peace plus one trillion" to fight climate change. Meanwhile, highly organized, UN-approved protests at COP29 demanded reparations and the elimination of oil and gas.

rocco, Morano ceremoniously shredded the UN's Paris Agreement in light of Donald Trump's first presidential victory and his decision to remove the United States from the treaty. The UN removed him and his colleagues from the premises and dropped them off at a remote location in the desert.

Newman and I caught up with Morano at COP29. "I am an official observer, but I cannot observe much. I only got one day to observe out of a twelve-day summit," he told Newman, conveying frustration over his pass being limited from two weeks to one day. "We have been coming since 1992 ... never had this experience. We are banned from attending [except for] one day a week per person at this summit."

## Manufactured Activism Flourishes at COP

While conducting interviews and doing research, Newman and I heard shrieking and wailing off in the distance: "Pay your climate debt!"; "Stop gas expansion!"; "Pay up!"; and other chants being screeched by "protesters." All their signs, chants, and calls to action were perfectly aligned with UN messaging for COP29: Developed nations must hand over trillions of dollars to fund climate action.

Walking up to one of the "protests," I immediately noticed that the participants in the display all had UN credentials and were surrounded by UN security. There were even ropes separating the "protesters" from the press, as if it were a red-carpet event.

"OK, the 15-minutes are up," I heard a UN handler say as she moved the barrier to let the group out and usher in the next round of "demonstrators." Newman and I approached an American who was part of the scam to see if we could interview him. He agreed, and asked what publication we were with. After looking up *The New American* on his smartphone, he said, "Sorry, I am not able to do interviews." A few minutes later, he began telling his fellow "protesters" that we were "climate deniers."

Photographs and reports of these demonstrations at COP29 make the show appear genuine, but it is in fact a highly organized, planned, scripted, and approved activity to promote the big hoax.

## The Issue Is Never the Issue

"In the beginning the organizer's first job is to create the issues or problems," opined community organizer and author of *Rules for Radicals* Saul Alinsky. "He must search out controversy and issues rather than avoid them, for unless there is controversy, people are not concerned enough to act."

The UN uses climate change as a front for its real agenda of a one-world government and the abolition of sovereign nations. The handful of facades that Newman and I observed at COP29 barely scratch the surface, but they help to illustrate the point that the agenda has never been — and will never be — about stopping "global warming." It is about centralizing power around the United Nations and acquiring mass funding for globalism.

Every action item from COP29 points to globalism rather than "saving the planet." A carbon tax would allow for global taxation and regulation of all human activity; solar and wind as "sustainable" energy alternatives weaken Western independence and would make America dependent on Communist China and other enemy nations; and giving $1.3 trillion a year to the Global South bankrupts what is left of the American middle class.

As a member of Students for a Democratic Society is purported to have said, "The issue is never the issue. The issue is always the revolution." The UN's revolution is worldwide dominance, and climate change is the front. It is time for American leadership to stop playing along with the hoax. ■

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# Dr. Ron Paul
## Champion of Life and Liberty

During his many years in the U.S. Congress, Rep. Paul distinguished himself as a principled defender of constitutionally limited government, sound money, and individual freedom.

***Interview by William F. Jasper***

Dr. Ron Paul is a military veteran, achieving the rank of captain while serving as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force and U.S. National Guard. He is also a family physician/obstetrician who has delivered thousands of babies. However, he is best known for his years in the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as his runs for the White House in 2008 and 2012, his stalwart defense of constitutional principles, and his unstinting adherence to sound fiscal and monetary policy. Representing Texas' 22nd Congressional District (1975-1977 and 1979-1985) and 14th Congressional District (1997-2013), Representative Paul amassed an outstanding lifetime score of 97 percent on this magazine's Freedom Index. He is a senior fellow of the Mises Institute, and a prolific author whose book titles include *The Case for Gold*, *End the Fed*, *Freedom Under Siege*, *Pillars of Prosperity*, *The School Revolution*, *A Foreign Policy of Freedom*, *Liberty Defined*, and *The Revolution: A Manifesto.*

During his more than two decades in the U.S. House of Representatives, Paul steadfastly refused to vote for any unconstitutional bill, often bucking his own Republican Party leaders, which earned him the proud title of "Dr. No." Refusing to accept government funds for his medical services, Dr. Paul cared for many of his patients free of charge. He is a staunch opponent of the Federal Reserve (calling for a full audit of, and then abolishing, the Fed) and is an advocate for our return to the gold standard. He is the founder and chairman of the Ron Paul Institute for Peace and Prosperity.

Dr. Paul sat down for an interview with *TNA* senior editor William F. Jasper on November 6, the day after Election Day. The video interview can be viewed at thenewamerican.com. The transcript below has been edited for space and clarity.

***The New American*:** Dr. Paul, such an honor. So glad to have you here with us. This is quite a momentous day…. So, yesterday, we had an incredible day at the polls. And it appears at this point that Donald Trump is regaining the White House. And, according to the projections, we will have a Republican Senate and a Republican House…. You've seen this before: a Republican White House as well as a Republican-controlled Senate and House of Representatives, and that didn't pan out with really great prospects for America. So, what do you see coming right now as our biggest challenge in the days ahead?

**Dr. Ron Paul:** Well, you know, they're not all the same, but, over the years, I've been in Congress, you know, with a mixture of things: One, the party would hold the Senate and the House, maybe, or one or the other, or the presidency. There was one time when we had the presidency and the House and Senate, but things didn't change that much.

I've been rather cynical over the years. Yes, there's all this talk because it's "the most important election ever." This one was considered that way, too, and I wouldn't want to belittle it because things were getting way out of whack, with the current administration. So that, to me, is important. But, when I look at the really big things, I'm not overly optimistic because we've gone far beyond anything that is common sense or anything that can be solved easily.

I've seen the promises made: "Well, we're going to cut this out." "We're going to balance the budget." "We'll write a law requiring every bill to say what part of the Constitution gives us authority [for what is in the bill]." None of that stuff worked. Overall, you know, I guess if I wanted to be optimistic, this election probably offers me the best chance to be optimistic because there is a desire to move away from what we've been putting up with.

Over the years, they don't even talk about some of the things I want, you know, like, why don't we look into the monetary system? Why don't we audit the Federal

*William F. Jasper is a senior editor of* The New American.

Reserve? Why don't we look at a constitutional foreign policy of nonintervention and no entangling alliances?

So, there's a lot of reasons why it's going to be difficult, even where the individuals in the administration may be very sincere. We have to cut spending, but it's too painful. And people come down hard on you if you vote to cut anything.

So, it's going to force the system to liquidate the debt. We can't live with $35 trillion of debt. And we're seeing the end coming on that. The market is more powerful than the politicians. And the market says you can't live with this type of spending. You can't live with this debt. It will be liquidated. The debt will be liquidated, as well as all the malinvestment.

***TNA*:** You must have been at least a bit encouraged to hear someone speak the truth on this. Just a short time ago, I guess it was a day or two ago, Elon Musk said, "We need to cut $2 trillion" from the budget. He sounds like "Doctor No." So, at least it has been mentioned out there.

**Paul:** Yeah, I think you have an important point there because, even though I might have mentioned something like that 10, 15, 20 years ago, it was mocked back then. But people aren't mocking Elon. You know, it doesn't mean that all of a sudden it's going to happen. But it's great to have somebody like Elon on our side and speaking out. He reached out to me, which I consider very, very interesting because I think that people need to understand the importance of this.

They're starting to, and there is a shift. And I think it helped Trump win because he had to take on, you know, some of the things that people are suffering from: immigration, our borders, the inflation, and the weak economy. I don't think there's a good understanding of why we have prices going up.

No, what you want to do is increase the value of the dollar and quit decreasing the value of the dollar, because that makes the price of commodities and food prices go up when you destroy the value of the dollar. So there's a lot of education. I think the only solution is education.

***TNA*:** Absolutely. You mentioned earlier the necessity of auditing the Fed. And of course, you were responsible for getting, after many years of pushing for that, the only legitimate audit that we've had of the Fed. Even then, it was only a partial audit one time, not a full audit every year.

We have an issue of the magazine on the Federal Reserve that we published in April with articles by Thomas DiLorenzo and Steve Bonta on the history of the Fed and ending the Fed.

We have the bill that your son, Rand Paul (R-Ky.), introduced in the Senate — the Federal Reserve Transparency Act [S. 3566, with 10 cosponsors] — and in the House simultaneously [H.R. 24 by Representative Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), with 72 cosponsors]. So, thanks to your groundwork on this, it is now being brought up. Last time, we even got some Democrats to support it.

**Deep State monster: The Federal Reserve (headquarters in Washington, D.C., shown above) is the giant debt and inflation machine that is destroying our economy and transferring our wealth to Wall Street globalists.**

Philip/Adobe Stock

**Paul:** A significant amount. And every Republican voted for the auditing of the Fed. But it was like you indicated, not a real audit. And it's not ongoing. Some people say, "Why don't you just abolish it?" Well, everybody knows that's what I would do. I would like to, but I start with the more practical thing of audit, believing that if you have an audit, everybody is going to say, "Wow, we got to get rid of this monster!"

***TNA*:** Now, if you go on the Federal Reserve website, which I did this morning, you will see that they say they do an audit every year. So what's wrong with the "audits" that the Federal Reserve has been giving us?

**Paul:** Well, yeah, that's sort of what is already out there. And they put some numbers together. The biggest resistance that I've ever gotten from presenting my case for auditing the Fed is that you can't expose what the Fed's doing with international companies and governments. I think there's so much wheeling and dealing done.

***TNA*:** So in tandem with the Federal Reserve Transparency Act, we also have the Gold Standard Restoration Act that's been proposed in the House of Representatives. It's H.R. 2435. That's something that, again, you promoted for many years. Why is a restoration of the gold standard needed? And how would that work? Some people will say, "Oh, that would be terrible. It would have a terrible impact on our economy."

**Paul:** Well, most of those arguments are on how you transition. So, you know, the British wanted to go back on the gold standard in the 1920s after World War I. And they went back and they made gold convertible at the prewar ratio. And by that time the pound was not worth that.

Okay. We had a gold standard for long time at $35 an ounce. Of course, now it's $3,000 an ounce and you just can't do that because people wouldn't believe it. And if they started honoring gold at $35 an ounce and the market rate was up to much more than that, nobody would use it.

See, foreigners were allowed to cash in their Federal Reserve notes, while we Americans weren't allowed to own gold. [Gold ownership was outlawed

by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 6102 of April 5, 1933, and subsequent legislation. Ownership was not legalized again until 1974.] By 1971, we were about to run out of gold completely.

So, you'd have to have a period of time, and you could have parallel currency that you can't circulate. Find out what the dollar-to-gold ratio would be and then go back gradually. Maybe you could start with bonds. There's a lot of good stuff that Hans Sennholz wrote about this many years ago. The point is that any amount of gold works…. So, I think the parallel currency is the most important thing. And that's why I always advocated getting rid of the rigging of the prices and let the market settle with it, have competing currencies.

AP Images

**Dragon slayer?** Elon Musk, Donald Trump's choice to head (along with Vivek Ramaswamy) the "Department of Government Efficiency," has suggested he will tap Dr. Ron Paul for help in slashing the size, cost, and tyranny of the bureaucratic beast.

***TNA*:** A number of states [Arkansas, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Utah, Wyoming, Louisiana, and West Virginia] have moved ahead with enacting gold reserve [or gold legal tender] legislation. Do you view that as being promising?

**Paul:** Yes, I think so, because it emphasizes gold. And interest in this is growing. I think because the Constitution is so clear [Article I, Section 10] that the states can't use anything else other than silver and gold as legal tender. So, when you present that to a state legislature, they're much more open to not charging sales taxes on a gold coin. You know, you can't tax money, especially if it's good money.

If you own 10 ounces of gold and then you sell it or exchange it, oh that's a capital gains tax. So, what the states have done is gotten rid of all their state laws on that. And that's a step in the right direction. So I highly recommend that they continue to do that.

***TNA*:** So, the economy, it appears, was the biggest issue in most of the states, according to most of the exit polls, if they can be believed. But, in addition to that, we have the open borders, mass migration, the surveillance-state issues, with more and more weaponized Department of Justice, FBI, and other regulatory agencies and intelligence agencies. And then we have the war issues — Ukraine, the Middle East. With a new Trump administration that comes in in January, and a new Republican Congress, what do you see that is hopeful in any or all of those areas?

**Paul:** When it comes to some of those foreign things, I'm not all that optimistic about it. We have people talking about it now, and I think they lean in our direction of staying out of entangling alliances and watching out for NATO and the United Nations. But as independent as Trump has been, I still think there is a Deep State out there that really pulls the strings.

I think he recognized that, and sort of hinted he's going to be more cautious about his appointments. And I'm not convinced of that because when it comes to somebody being up for a Federal Reserve Board appointment, it's not going to happen without some approval by some very powerful people.

So, I just don't think there's going to be any magic there. I think the gradualism of balancing the budget, cutting back, and restoring constitutional government [is what we should focus on].

***TNA*:** You've been in the forefront for decades pointing out that inflation is caused by the monetary system, by monetizing the debt. And it is a tax. It is one of the ways in which the federal government taxes the people by destroying the value of their money, of their savings.

We have seen heightened inflation now in the past few years under Biden. But, as you have pointed out, inflation has really taxed our dollar over the decades to an incredible extent. What is it now, according to your figures — the actual value of the dollar compared to 50 years ago or whatever benchmark you might use?

**Paul:** I think if you go back to 1971, the pretense was that we were still on a gold standard for international affairs at $35 an ounce. And now I think it's like 90-percent devaluation. But it keeps going on as long they can deceive the people: "Don't sweat it, we're all right. In the meantime, we can keep sending you stuff for free."

And that's why I'm not very optimistic. Even if they agree with us, they don't want to volunteer to be the victims of the changes that have to come. It won't be painless. But the markets are more powerful than the politicians. Eventually [their policies] lead to chaos. And we will be forced to do something and change our ways. And that's going to be a job. We have to change our foreign policy, our monetary policy, our spending policy. And we'd have to do something which is so radical: We'd have to obey the Constitution, and they're not much interested in that.

***TNA*:** Well, that is really the key point. And you have been on point with that throughout your whole career in Congress. That is why you were called "Doctor No," because you refused to vote for

**Original "gold bug":** After decades of leading opposition to fractional reserve central banking and pushing for a return to the gold standard, Ron Paul is no longer a lone sentinel. Nations, states, and individuals are buying gold and moving toward a gold standard.

NHA Studio/Adobe Stock

any bill that was unconstitutional, that was not authorized in the Constitution. Now, everyone *claims* to be for the Constitution — Nancy Pelosi, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Chuck Schumer, and all of the Republicans as well. Yet, they go right ahead and vote for unconstitutional programs.

Most of the Cabinet positions and departments and agencies are unconstitutional. So, it seems that that is the key area that we need to educate Americans on — the proper role of the federal government. Get it out of all those areas where it is not supposed to be. You can't really cut the spending if you don't cut the size of government, the size and cost of government. Correct?

**Paul:** That's right. You can't make government "more efficient." By its very nature, government is inefficient, so you have to attack it at its inception. Why do you have it? And, I ask anybody who ever wants to pass anything or contribute something to more government, where are you getting the authority and where are you getting the money?

And you don't have *any* authority for *most* of the things that they do. And you don't have any money other than what you steal. People don't think of it this way. They say, "We have to do this." They always have an excuse. And, "We can't let the banks go bankrupt because the people will lose their deposits." The Founders stated at the beginning, you couldn't do anything unless it was authorized in the Constitution.

And yet, now, they say that if it isn't prohibited in the Constitution explicitly, we're allowed to do it. I mean, that's why the liberals have no sense of remorse. They justify it. You know, when the Pelosi liberals say, "We believe in the Constitution," that's their idea, their interpretation.

***TNA*:** I'd like to switch gears in the last few minutes that we have here, Dr. Paul. You're a physician as well as a former congressman. You had a 100-percent pro-life voting record. We have seen, just a couple of years ago, the *Dobbs* decision overturning the *Roe v. Wade* decision, which legalized abortion basically on demand here in the United States. So now, in the past couple of years, we've seen a tremendous backlash fueled by hundreds of millions of dollars that have poured into the pro-abortion campaigns around the country. And many of the formerly pro-life congressmen and politicians have backed off of the issue. Now, what is your message to people about the life issue?

**Paul:** Well, it has to be *the* most important thing, because if you can't protect life, how do you protect liberty, you know, if you can't protect the life of a fetus that has legal recognition and can be protected under the law — if somebody injures a pregnant woman and the fetus dies, you're liable. People would have to realize that this is the case. But no, I think the Supreme Court ruling was right. I think Trump finally found a position that I would agree with because he says, you know, just think of all the things that have been left to the states, and the states use it.

All forms of violence, almost — you know, like, manslaughter, all degrees of manslaughter, murder, etc. — the states are all different. They're not uniform. And, so I think as a state issue, I think it's difficult. There are some problems that are very tough to handle.

But what about when you have somebody giving us *Roe v. Wade*, and it can be interpreted that it just legalized — you know, they are aborting and they're killing a very, very live infant, even in the third trimester. That is pretty bad. So, the rejection of that I think was a good step in the right direction.

***TNA*:** Final question. Elon Musk hinted that he may tap you to assist him in the Trump administration. Is that a prospect?

**Paul:** Well, just what was in the news, just on the internet. But I don't think it's been an official offer.

***TNA*:** Would that be something you would contemplate?

**Paul:** Oh, I've said on the reports that if they wanted me to be included in that committee for advisory purposes, I would, but not in an official capacity. I would not join a national bureaucracy for that. But I would say that, because I've talked about it long enough, if they wanted my input, I'd be glad to do that.

***TNA*:** Well, Dr. Paul, thank you so much for being with us. After all these many years of fighting the good fight and being relegated to the backwaters in Congress and whatnot, your faithful holding forth for the Constitution and for sane fiscal policy is finally rising up there and becoming respectable. We so appreciate you hanging in there all these years.

**Paul:** And thank you. I hope we continue to see steps in the right direction. That's about all we can do. We can't get perfection overnight, but everything that we do is either moving toward authoritarianism or moving toward liberty. And we ought to be able to tell that. So I don't ever endorse anything where we're moving toward more authoritarianism. ■

Faith FAMILY FREEDOM

# Broadcasting the Abortion Holocaust

*by Rebecca Terrell*

"Black pastors, we're talking to you! Jesus said what you do to children, you do to Him. Jesus said you're better off drowned in the sea with a millstone around your neck if you abuse children. The Democrat Party abuses children with perversion, deviancy and death. If we support Democrats, we attack children and make void the word of God with blasphemous lies. They have pimped you for 30 pieces of silver to betray innocent blood. Repent! Stop supporting these criminals!"

The above quote is from the last Constitution Party advertisement televised on Election Day, November 5. As Constitution Party vice-presidential candidate Pastor Stephen Broden spoke these words, viewers of CBS Evening News witnessed corpses of aborted babies and the Democratic leaders who approve this murderous holocaust of the unborn innocent in our country.

It was a thunderous finale to a nationwide ad campaign planned by Broden and his presidential running mate, Randall Terry. They took advantage of Federal Communications Commission rules, which dictate that federal candidates can run ads on federally licensed television in all 50 states within 60 days of an election, provided candidates pay market advertising rates. The networks may not censor or edit the commercials.

Terry and Broden ran graphic ads on every major network during programs such as *Meet the Press*, *The View*, and *Jimmy Kimmel Live*. They even reached the Hispanic audience of Univision's *Despierta América*. "Our campaign reached at least 45 million viewers," Terry told *The New American*, "including during game four of the World Series." Baseball fans heard the message that "a vote for Kamala is a vote to murder babies."

"I have no doubt that our ads helped defeat Kamala," Terry said, pointing to statistics from November 5 that show the Democrats down more than 10 million votes from 2020 to 2024. He rejoices at what he calls these "defections from the party of death," and says that was the point of the Terry-Broden 2024 campaign.

## Focus on Demographics

All it took to achieve their goal was some simple math. In the 2020 election, more than half of Catholics and a third of evangelicals voted for then-candidate Joe Biden; 90 percent of black voters cast their ballots for him.

Terry and Broden realized that many in these demographics

*Rebecca Terrell is a senior editor of* The New American.

Clip from "Stupid Celebrities" ad

www.terry2024.com

are against abortion, so they set out to alert them to the reality of the Democratic Party's pro-death stance, masked behind the platform's deceptive "reproductive freedom" plank.

"If we could get four or five percent of Roman Catholics, four or five percent of African Americans, to just say, 'I'm done with this party,'" Terry postulated, "we can literally sink the whole party. The margins are that tight!" He pointed out further that "no one in American political history has done what we are doing."

## Leftist Media Unhinged

The campaign was effective, if leftist backlash is any metric. "Why are ABC viewers being forced to see a graphic anti-abortion ad?" complained *The Washington Post*. "ABC airs anti-abortion ad with disturbing images during *The View* broadcast comparing show cohosts to Nazis," tattled a pearl-clutching *Entertainment Weekly*. The latter quoted a CNN representative who called the ad "outrageous, antisemitic and dangerous."

Terry titled the referenced ad "Stupid Celebrities" and displayed pictures of more than just *The View* co-hosts — 26 abortion promoters in all, including Chris Evans, Billie Eilish, Taylor Swift, Rachel Maddow, Norah O'Donnell, Wolf Blitzer, Oprah Winfrey, Robert De Niro, Samuel L. Jackson, and Scarlett Johansson.

"I am so sick of stupid celebrities and lying journalists," Terry spits, as their pictures flash on the screen. "Why don't you fools follow the science?" Suddenly the images change to pictures of babies, born and preborn, with the repeated words, "This is a human being." Then come photos of aborted babies: "And these are dead human beings, murdered by abortion that you promote."

"If history even remembers you," Terry continues, "you'll be remembered like Leni Riefenstahl and Joseph Goebbels," both Nazi propagandists. He then quotes Proverbs 10:7, "The name of the wicked will rot," before admonishing his audience: "Ignore these sleazebags. A vote for Kamala is a vote for murdered babies."

The spot ran on October 9 — the first of eight airings on *The View*. ABC actually drew attention to it with pre- and post-televised warnings. "The following is a paid political advertisement, and the ABC Television Network is required to carry it by federal law. The advertisement contains scenes that may be disturbing to children. Viewer discretion is advised." The follow-up message contained similar verbiage.

What hypocrisy from the network that received an "Excellent" rating this October from GLAAD (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) for the prevalence and positive treatment of LGBT characters in its programming; from the network that rewarded Bill Clinton's senior advisor George Stephanopoulos with his own show after he shielded the former president from allegations of sexual crimes; from the network that gave the pervert Jimmy Kimmel his own show despite his depraved stunts as former co-host of Comedy Central's *The Man Show*; from the network that in 2016 suppressed news of the Jeffrey Epstein child-trafficking scandal to protect Hillary Clinton's campaign; from the network whose *View* co-host Joy Behar, in 2018, compared the Christian beliefs of then vice-president Mike Pence to "mental illness."

Regardless, after Terry's ad aired, social media exploded. "This is the most heartless, heartbreaking, disgusting and despicable thing I have ever seen!!" wrote one viewer. "Using miscarried babies as an abortion ad — absolutely horrendous, absolutely disgusting!"

But the images could not honestly be mistaken for miscarriages. Some showed tiny body parts dismembered by D&C (dilation and curettage) surgical abortion; other pictures were taken in 2022 when pro-life activists discovered the bodies of five full-term babies discarded in medical waste bins outside a Washington, D.C., abortion mill — victims of apparent illegal late-term or even partial-birth abortion.

## 2024: Bad for Babies

What angered so many is that Terry and Broden forced them to stare into the face of abortion, to see the pitiful, mangled bodies, to bear witness to the bloody massacre of innocent, defenseless babies. Only the obtuse or malicious could see these images and still tout the "clump of cells" cliché peddled by purveyors of infanticide.

On November 5, voters in South Dakota resolutely rejected the slaughter. The Mount Rushmore State refused to add "abortion rights" to its constitution by a

vote of 59 percent to 41 percent. Elective abortion remains a felony there.

Election results in Nebraska and Florida amount to less-decisive victories. Nebraska offered its citizens two competing ballot measures. The first would have enshrined abortion in the state constitution; that measure failed by a nose, with 51 percent rejecting it. Instead, 55 percent of Cornhuskers added the second measure to their constitution: the state's preexisting ban of abortion past 12 weeks' gestation. This age discrimination only protects babies in the second and third trimesters.

Florida practices age discrimination, too. A six-week ban is in place there. However, the Sunshine State barely dodged a constitutional amendment enshrining the so-called right to abortion. The measure needed 60-percent approval but garnered 57 percent, missing the mark by only three percent!

Pro-lifers count these three states as victories, but abortion won in seven other states, most by overwhelming ratios. Arizona, Missouri, New York, Maryland, and Colorado added constitutional amendments establishing legalized abortion as the law of the land. Arizona's measure, which passed 61 percent to 39 percent, allows abortion through 24 weeks. Missouri (52 percent-48 percent) and New York (62 percent-38 percent) established ambiguous gestational limits in combination with strict "privacy" protections that can easily be exploited to excuse abortion at any point in pregnancy. In Maryland (74 percent-26 percent) and Colorado (61 percent-39 percent), there is no gestational limit, and the latter state also repealed a provision banning public funding for abortion.

Nevada (64 percent-36 percent) passed a "first step" toward a constitutional amendment. Voters will have to approve the same ballot measure in 2026. And Montana (57 percent-43 percent) legalized abortion by statute until the ambiguous "age of viability."

Not only do these measures ensure that killing babies continues unabated, but they trample parental-notification laws and paternal rights. The laws passed on November 5 do not limit a "right to abortion" based on age, so minors can easily skirt parental consent. Moreover, the new laws completely disregard expectant fathers who oppose a pregnant mother's decision to abort.

Legalized abortion likewise promises to accelerate human trafficking. Undercover reporting in 2011 by Live Action Films exposed the nation's top abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, partnering in these crimes. In response to their exposé, Dr. Jeffrey Barrows, director of Christian Trafficking Shelter Association, contacted Live Action to say, "As a healthcare professional actively fighting human trafficking, I know that traffickers will often take their victims to clinics to obtain abortions or STI [sexually transmitted infection] testing. I find it appalling that there are people working at Planned Parenthood who are willing to help traffickers exploit young girls, but even more horrifying to realize they are being paid with my tax dollars!"

The problem has since escalated. The Department of Justice reports that prosecutions for human trafficking increased by 84 percent between 2011 and 2020. Arrests and convictions evinced similar skyrocketing numbers.

They'll continue rising because the repeal of *Roe v. Wade* did not suddenly return the United States to the mid-1960s, when laws in all states prohibited abortion. Currently, only eight states protect unborn life at conception without exceptions.

We can attribute our modern about-face to leftist lies, which have now become so patently absurd that they *should* defy belief. "Women have been arrested and charged for miscarriages," ranted U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris at a September campaign event in Atlanta. She blamed strict pro-life laws.

In reality, the story she referenced involved a Nevada woman, Patience Frazier, who was charged with manslaughter after her miscarriage because investigators determined that she had intentionally caused it. They dug up the baby's body, buried in her backyard, and a toxicology report found marijuana and methamphetamine in the infant's system. Frazier spent more than two years in jail and was released in July 2021, eleven months *before* the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

**Vote to kill: Floridians narrowly rejected a constitutional amendment enshrining abortion as a "right."**

AP Images

### Support for Terry and Broden

Clearly, the battle for babies' lives is far from over, despite that 2022 SCOTUS ruling. But Terry and Broden believe that campaigns such as theirs, repeated often enough, will secure victory.

"We planned to bring the horror of abortion into the public square through our campaign," says Broden. "By God's grace, hard work, and the help of pro-life patriots, we succeeded."

Many in the pro-life world agree. Dr. Monica Migliorino Miller, director of Citizens for a Pro-life Society, wrote:

> These TV ads were the most bold and powerful pro-Life statements that occurred in this election cycle. Terry and Pastor Broden had the courage to show photos of the actual victims of abortion, many of which I took personally of the babies Citizens for a Pro-Life Society retrieved from the trash. These ads were run by the hundreds here in Michigan, and undoubtedly contributed to the Harris defeat. They caused a percentage of voters to rethink their support for Harris, giving Trump the small edge he needed in states like Michigan. We may get to heaven and find out that these ads caused the margin of victory for Trump. Now we just need to keep the pressure on him to move at the federal level for justice for the babies.

Dan Miller, state director of Pro-Life Wisconsin, issued this equally resounding endorsement:

> We know that Randall Terry and Pastor Stephen Broden ran hundreds of TV ads here telling Black voters "a vote for Kamala is a vote for black genocide," and telling Catholic voters, "a vote for Kamala is a vote to kill Jesus in the womb." These types of ads have never been run before on a nationwide basis for a presidential election. I know abortion victim imagery works in changing minds. I've seen it first-hand after over fifteen years of sidewalk counseling at abortion centers. I have no doubt these commercials swung thousands of votes away from the Harris/Walz ticket and could surely be the reason Trump carried Wisconsin.

You can view all of the Terry/Broden ads at the campaign website: www.Terry2024.com. Terry recommends sharing the ads on social media so they can continue impacting future voters. ■

**Rigging The Climate Agenda**

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**(December 30, 2024) TNA241230**

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***Depopulation by Design***

When viewed in the context of U.S. and international policies on population reduction and control, the Covid pandemic was not an isolated or random event. **(June 24, 2024) TNA240624**

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## A Young Role Model

At just 15 years old, Legacy Jackson from St. Louis is showing how community service can be both impactful and enjoyable, inspiring children across the region to give back in meaningful ways.

Legacy's journey began at a young age, as her mother, Kynedra Ogunnaike, instilled in her the value of giving back. Every Christmas morning, before opening gifts, Legacy and her brother would feed the homeless. Even as a child, Legacy noticed something missing — there were no other kids participating.

"She'd always point out, 'Why are there no other kids here?'" Ogunnaike recalled. "It became a running joke because I knew she'd mention it every time." This observation sparked an idea. At just seven years old, Legacy envisioned a way to make community service engaging and fun, leading to the creation of Little Legacies Community Service Organization. The organization motivates young people to get involved in service projects, such as delivering teddy bears to cancer patients or spreading cheer to senior citizens.

Legacy's dedication has earned her statewide recognition, and she became Missouri's youngest TED Talk speaker, KSDK reported in November, sharing her vision of blending service with celebration alongside globally renowned speakers.

One of her most impactful projects was transforming a play area at Gateway180, St. Louis' largest emergency shelter for families. What was once a dated space is now a lively, welcoming area for children. "You don't think of a homeless shelter as a place for joy, but that's exactly what Legacy brought," said Kathy Connors, director of Gateway180.

Legacy's positivity has deeply influenced her peers. "She's so uplifting — just being around her makes you feel better," said 12-year-old Amaya Mason. Another young volunteer, 13-year-old Trenton Fitz, added, "Some days, I want to be just like her."

Despite her accomplishments, Legacy remains humble. "I'm just doing what I'm supposed to be doing," she said, embodying the heart of her mission: to help others while inspiring her peers to do the same.

## A Record-breaking Story of Compassion

In November, Texas mother Alyse Ogletree redefined generosity by breaking the Guinness World Record for the largest individual donation of breast milk — an incredible 2,645.58 liters, or nearly 700 gallons. What's most astonishing is this is the second time she has broken the record, beating the one she set in 2014, according to the *Houston Chronicle*. Her journey began in 2010 after the birth of her first child, Kyle, when she discovered her extraordinary ability to produce an excess supply of milk.

Encouraged by nurses who noticed her overproduction, Ogletree started donating to the Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas. Her contributions provided nourishment to countless premature infants in need. Over the years, Ogletree donated milk during three pregnancies and beyond, totaling 414 gallons while nursing Kyle and an additional 528 gallons after the births of her younger sons, Kage and Kory. Her donations have benefited more than 350,000 infants across Texas, underscoring her profound impact on neonatal health, as many experts believe that human breast milk is better for babies than cow's milk or formula.

Ogletree's efforts extended beyond her record-breaking donations. She also contributed to Tiny Treasures, another milk bank, and informally shared breast milk with friends in need, though these contributions were not included in her official record. Her commitment to helping fragile newborns showcases her exceptional compassion and selflessness. Shaina Stanks, director of the Mothers' Milk Bank of North Texas, described Ogletree's contributions as "an incomprehensible amount of surplus breast milk" and a true testament to her unparalleled generosity.

Reflecting on her journey, she shared, "Donating milk was a way I could give back."

Ogletree's unwavering dedication to feeding vulnerable infants serves as a powerful reminder of how one person's generosity can make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

## From Survivor to Advocate

In 2018, Zachary Sutterfield, then a 20-year-old student at Texas State University, barely survived a catastrophic fire at The Iconic Village Apartments in San Marcos, Texas. The blaze tragically claimed the lives of five young adults, and left Sutterfield with life-threatening injuries, including third-degree burns over 70 percent of his body and a traumatic brain injury. Despite being given just a 20-percent chance of survival, he defied the odds through sheer determination and resilience.

Since the accident, Sutterfield has undergone more than 25 surgeries. He has transformed his experience into a mission of advocacy and support, and now works tirelessly to help others, focusing on burn-survivor advocacy, fire-prevention education, and public awareness. Partnering with the Texas Burn Survivor Society (TBSS) and other organizations, he offers support to burn victims across the state, reflecting his commitment to giving back.

In November, Sutterfield was honored with the esteemed Jane Jayne Award by TBSS, KSAT.com reported. This award celebrates individuals who make a significant impact on the burn-survivor community through service and encouragement. Named after TBSS founders David and Jane Jayne, the recognition highlights Sutterfield's dedication to lifting up others and sharing his story of perseverance.

Beyond his work with TBSS, Sutterfield is a staff member at Sons of the Flag, a nonprofit organization that funds advanced burn care for veterans and first responders. Through social media and public-speaking engagements, he raises awareness about fire safety and motivates others to overcome life's challenges. "I'm lucky to be here, and by golly, I'm going to make waves," he said in one of his videos.

Sutterfield's extraordinary journey from survivor to advocate is a testament to his resilience and compassion. His unwavering commitment to supporting others not only honors the lives lost in the fire, but also demonstrates the profound impact one person can have. To learn more about his work, visit his Facebook page or the Texas Burn Survivor Society's website. ■

*— Raven Clabough*

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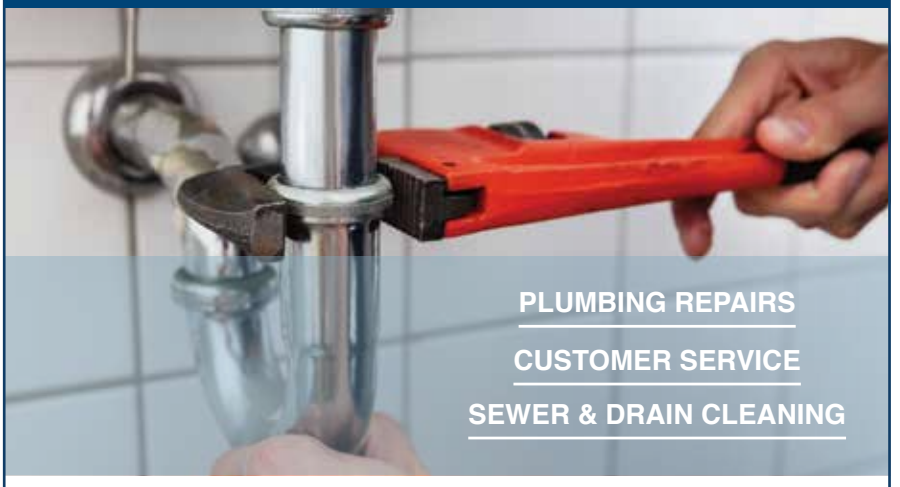


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# Democracy and the Left

Did you know that in *The Communist Manifesto* Marx said the "first step in the revolution" is to "win the battle of democracy"? He did so for good reason.

**by Steve Bonta**

It is no exaggeration to say that we live in the age of democracy. The word is on every lip, from Beijing to Delhi to Paris to Washington. It is ubiquitous in political commentary and in campaign sloganeering. It has acquired near-mystical appeal among professed socialists, Marxists, and partisans of individual liberty alike. So pervasive is its appeal that almost no political speech fails to pay it proper deference. Democracy has become the catch-all for civic virtue, the ultimate aim of public policy, and is met with almost universal approval among Western leaders.

Unfortunately, virtually all modern leaders, media pundits, and intellectuals in the so-called free world frequently confound two very different senses of the word "democracy." In one sense, democracy may have reference to the mode of selecting political representatives via plebiscite or popular vote. In this narrow sense, and in this sense alone, the word may be applied also to our American system — at least with regard to those offices filled by popularly elected candidates.

But this is not the ordinary sense in which "democracy" is used. It is almost always used to recommend a mode of government, and denotes a system that tries to approximate as closely as possible direct government by the people themselves or their immediate surrogates, who make and execute laws in exact conformance to the ever-evolving tastes of the popular majority. In this latter sense, of course, America is not and was never intended to be a "democracy," and stood in rather stark contrast to certain ancient attempts at pure democracy, such as Athens, as well as to more modern versions, such as the various instantiations of Revolutionary France (both misnamed "republics") and the short-lived democracy in Russia, the "Russian Democratic Federal Republic," led by Alexander Kerensky.

Democracy as a form of government was championed by both Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. Concerning the aims of the hoped-for communist revolution, the latter wrote that "[the revolution] will establish a democratic constitution, and through this, the direct or indirect dominance of the proletariat." Mao Zedong, the architect of Chinese communist totalitarianism, called for "New Democracy" in his 1940 book on the topic, while every one of his successors down to Xi Jinping has promoted democracy as a core value of Chinese socialism, with the latest iteration being Xi's "consultative democracy." Even the psychopathic mass murderer Pol Pot, whose Khmer Rouge communist regime liquidated up to one-half of the entire population of Cambodia, renamed the country "Democratic Kampuchea" during his four-year reign of terror known nowadays as the "killing fields."

The fact that every totalitarian leftist

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revolution from the French Revolution onward self-identified as "democratic" should give pause for thought among the masses who have conferred upon democracy talismanic status, as though popular, majoritarian government were the end-all of human well-being and progress. There are those who would claim that "democratic socialism" (as well as its milder-sounding inversion, "social democracy") and the vaporings of Marx, Russia's Vladimir Lenin, Mao, and other blood-soaked collectivist tyrants are distortions that do not embody the true spirit of democracy. But in reality, there is very little difference between radical collectivism (of which communism is the purest version so far devised) and pure democracy — which is why the two have always gone hand in hand, and why, in direct proportion to America's accelerating adoption of socialist policies, her ruling elites' obsession with democracy grows more and more shrill.

## Marx and Democracy

As a matter of convenience, we choose Marx and Engels as a starting point, since all modern leftist movements, radical or otherwise, trace their pedigree to them; yet the incestuous relationship between partisans of democracy and radical-left collectivists could be traced back much further. On the matter of democracy, as with all aspects of his deformed political philosophy, Marx was nothing if not explicit. He not only wholeheartedly embraced pure, theoretical democracy as part of the communist program, he also clearly understood the difference between democracy and republican government — and regarded the latter as a contemptible bourgeois phenomenon, no better in essence than monarchy. In his *Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*, Marx expounded at length on democracy, noting that "in democracy the *constitution itself* appears as only one determination, and that the self-determination, of the people." (Emphasis in original.) Thus, in contrast with monarchies and their alleged ideological siblings, republics, in democracies "man does not exist for the law, but the law for man." As for republics, Marx disparaged them for being, along with monarchies, the illegitimate custodians of private property; the constitutions of both republics and monarchies perpetuated the supposed evil of social inequality reinforced by property law. "Property," he wrote, "in sum the total content of law and the state is, with a few modifications, the same in North America as in Prussia. Thus, the North American Republic is as much a mere *form* of the state as the Prussian monarchy. The content of the state is external to its constitution." (Emphasis in original.)

Calling themselves variously "German democratic communists" and "German democrats," Marx and Engels forged alliances with every revolutionary democratic movement they could woo, from England's Chartists to the "Agrarian Reformers in America" mentioned in Chapter 4 of *The Communist Manifesto*. Engels explained the reason for the communist-democrat axis in 1847 as follows:

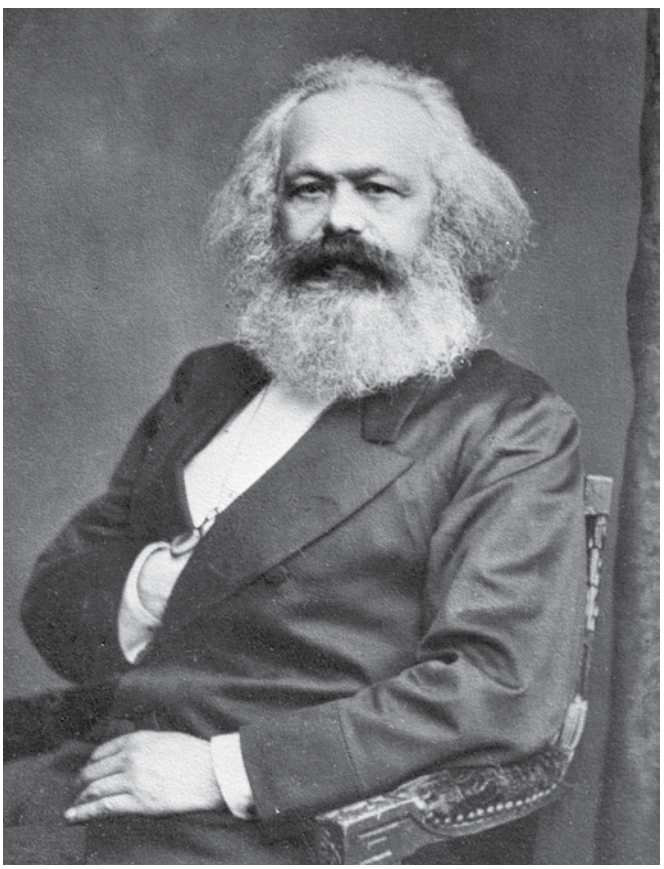
> The communists, far from starting useless arguments with the democrats in the current situation, appear for the moment in all practical party matters as democrats. Democracy in all civilized lands has the political rule of the proletariat as a necessary consequence and the political rule of the proletariat is the first precondition of all communist measures.

Answering the question, "Which road will this [communist] revolution take?" in *The Principles of Communism* (often referred to unironically as the "communist catechism"), Engels replied:

> Above all, it will establish a democratic constitution, and through this, the direct or indirect dominance of the proletariat…. Democracy would be wholly valueless to the proletariat if it were not immediately used as a means for putting through measures directed against private property and ensuring the livelihood of the proletariat.

In other words, democracy is the most natural political vessel for accomplishing the collectivist aims of communism, especially the abolition of private property.

The explicit linkage by Marx and Engels of democracy with socialism (as well as Marx's denunciation of republican government as decadent and bourgeois) ensured that "democracy" would become the watchword of every strand of modern leftism, from the milder flavors of progressivism and syndicalism to the hardest-edged forms of radical totalitarian collectivism. Well-meaning "progressives," whose loose movement in the late 19th century coalesced into a full-fledged political party by



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**All the Marx of tyranny:** Karl Marx extolled democracy throughout his nefarious career, recognizing correctly that democracy is a necessary precursor to the "dictatorship of the proletariat."

Public Domain

**Recipe for totalitarianism:** The constitution of Germany's Weimar Republic sought to replace monarchy with government by the people — but ended up furnishing the legal pretext for Hitler's totalitarian rule.

the early 20th century, introduced to America a whole range of socialist policies being promoted by elites of the day, under the influence of European radical reformers. One of these was the referendum, one of the hallmarks of pure democracy, which was first rolled out in South Dakota in 1898, followed by Utah in 1900. Many other states followed, the impetus for referenda having originated with political reforms in Switzerland in the 1870s, which many American progressives admired for their democratic substance. While still governor of New Jersey, liberal progressive and Eastern elitist par excellence Woodrow Wilson called the referendum "the safeguard of politics," adding that the direct democracy that it embodies "takes power from the hands of the boss and places it in the hands of the people." This, of course, was the motivation of the entire progressive movement and the political party that it eventually spawned: to correct the alleged oversights of the American Founders in creating a republic rather than a pure democracy, by transforming America into a closer approximation of the latter. All of the prominent agenda items of the progressive movement — the direct election of senators, the introduction of direct mass participation in government via the referendum, the abolition of child labor, government breakup of so-called monopolies, government regulation of labor and of private business, recall elections, the minimum wage, inheritance taxes, and the eight-hour workday, to mention but a few — arose from the egalitarian impulses endemic to the Left, and nearly all of them have become law today in the United States.

The obsession with "democracy" is thus becoming a self-fulfilling prophecy in the United States, with the widespread embrace of Old World socialism and Marxist theory. To her credit, America has not yet entirely cast aside the shield of republicanism, although it has become seriously dented and weakened from repeated blows. The persistence of republican institutions such as the Electoral College, as well as the Constitution itself, is evidence of this.

The Old World, however, has not been so fortunate. Across Europe and Asia, the democratic tidal wave of the 19th and early 20th centuries swept away the old order as surely as any war. Indeed, in the case of World War I and its aftermath, total war and democracy went hand in hand, obliterating the German, Russian, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman empires, in each instance replacing them with supposed democracies that eventually gave way, in whole or in part, to either collectivism or (in the belated instance of modern Turkey) Islamism.

## Democracy in Germany

Germany, the land of the Kaiser, experienced the double jolt of economic collapse and the imposition of a new form of government, the so-called Weimar Republic, that soon gave way to National Socialism. Later, after Germany's defeat in World War II, one half of the country fell under communist rule.

The origins of Germany's Weimar Republic, which survived less than 20 years and proved the incubator of one of the most hideous governments ever to disfigure this melancholy world, are routinely ignored and are worth reviewing. In October 1918, just one month before the end of World War I, a communist revolution broke out in Germany, beginning at the port of Wilhelmshaven and spreading swiftly across the country. Organized and spurred on by the Spartacus League, a German communist underground movement organized in 1914 by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, two hallowed figures in the annals of the radical Left, the revolutionaries began setting up Russian-style democratic popular councils — or soviets — all across the country. The anti-monarchy revolution coalesced into two competing socialist parties, one of which (the Independent Social Democratic Party of Germany, or MSPD) wanted a soviet-style centrally planned economy, while the other (the Social Democratic Party of Germany, or SPD) wanted a parliamentary-style system. Despite ongoing revolutionary violence, the MSPD and SPD, whose members agreed in principle on the need for a socialist democratic form of government, managed to cobble together a new constitution that framed the government of the Weimar Republic.

The Weimar Constitution, written after the manner that had become typical of secular European democratic republicanism, proclaimed a republic and the people as the supreme authority therein in the very first article. But as is typical of such "democratic" documents, scant attention was paid either to limiting the collective power of the popular government, or to setting up any semblance of checks and balances (checks, balances, and scrupulous separation of powers are typically viewed as impediments to the workings of the majoritarian will). For example, the Weimar Constitution included this explicit and technically unlimited writ of government authority in Article 9:

> Insofar as there is need for uniform regulation, the Federation may legislate upon all matters concerning
> (1) public welfare,
> (2) the maintenance of public order and security.

Then there was this broad writ of legislative authority in Article 10:

> General principles may be laid down by federal legislation concerning the following subjects, viz.
> (1) The rights and duties of religious bodies.
> (2) Public education, including the universities and scientific libraries.
> (3) The status of officials of all public corporations.
> (4) Land laws....
> (5) The disposal of the dead.

Interestingly, the constitution incorporated as a prominent feature a compulsory public school system (another major plank of communism, included in the 10th plank of Marx's *Communist Manifesto*):

> Art. 144. The whole of the educational system is under the supervision of the state; the latter can assign a share in this task to the local communities.
>
> Art. 145. School attendance is compulsory … up to the completion of the eighteenth year. Instruction and the accessories thereto are gratuitous in elementary and continuation [i.e., high] schools….
>
> Art. 148. In every school the educational aims must be moral training, public spirit, personal and vocational fitness, and, above all, the cultivation of German national character and of the spirit of international reconciliation.

To be sure, the Weimar Constitution provided for the protection of individual rights — but always subject to curtailment at the whim of the government. For example:

> Art. 114. Personal freedom is inviolable. No restraint or deprivation of personal liberty by the public power is admissible, *unless authorized by law*.
>
> Art. 115. The residence of every German is a sanctuary for him and inviolable. *Exceptions are admitted in virtue of the law only*.
>
> Art. 117. The secrecy of correspondence, as well as the secrecy of postal, telegraphic and telephonic communications is inviolable. *Exceptions may be admitted by federal law only*. [Emphasis added.]

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**Democratic leaders:** Leon Trotsky (left) and Vladimir Lenin (center) championed democracy as a necessary part of Soviet communism. In fact, the Russian word "soviet" means, in effect, a democratic people's council.

And lest there were any lingering doubt as to the consequences of enumerating rights subject to government curtailment whenever it deemed necessary, the infamous Article 48 of the constitution, which provided the legal basis for Hitler's takeover of the German government following the Reichstag fire of February 27, 1933, conferred upon the German executive dictatorial powers whenever he should choose to exercise them:

> If a state fails to perform the duties imposed upon it by the federal constitution or by federal law, the President … may enforce performance with the aid of the armed forces. If public order and security are seriously disturbed or endangered within the Federation, the President … may take all necessary steps for their restoration, intervening, if need be, with the aid of the armed forces. For the said purpose he may suspend for the time being, either wholly or in part, the fundamental rights described in Articles 114, 115, 117, 118, 123, 124, and 153.

The framers of the Weimar Constitution knew from very recent experience how unstable democracy was; hence the alleged need to provide for a dictator should things spin out of control. However well-intentioned the founders of the Weimar Republic may have been, there is no question that the democratic constitution that they promulgated (a constitution which, per Article 76, could be amended via direct legislation supported by a supermajority of lawmakers) paved the way for the rise of the Third Reich and all the havoc it wrought on Europe and the world.

## Democracy in Russia

Nor did things turn out any better for the Russians, whose "people's revolution" rapidly spun out of control and devolved into the worst tyranny the world had yet seen. Lost in all the horror of Joseph Stalin's purges and Lavrentiy Beria's police state was the inescapable reality that the Soviet Union was founded on democratic principles; indeed, the Russian word "soviet" means a democratic socialist workers' council. The Soviet Union was, as

AP Images

**Democracy in China:** Chinese dictators Xi Jinping (left) and Mao Zedong (right) both championed democracy, and Xi has even included it as one of the 12 "core socialist values" of Chinese communism. Listed along with democracy are "freedom" and "equality" — defined in collectivist democratic terms.

the name implies, originally cobbled together as a congress of soviets. Over time, of course, the power of the soviets was squelched as Stalin consolidated his rule.

Lenin, however, viewed the relationship between democracy and socialism as indissoluble. In a 1916 letter, he wrote: "We Social-Democrats always stand for democracy, not 'in the name of capitalism,' but in the name of clearing the path for *our* movement." (Emphasis in original.) He was careful to distinguish between the counterfeit democracy practiced by capitalists, which he characterized as "democracy for an insignificant minority, democracy for the rich," and the supposedly genuine form endemic to socialism. Ultimately, though, democracy went hand in hand with the "dictatorship of the proletariat," which Lenin spelled out in 1917 in *The State and Revolution*:

> The dictatorship of the proletariat … cannot result merely in an expansion of democracy. Simultaneously with an immense expansion of democracy, which for the first time becomes democracy for the poor, democracy for the people, and not democracy for the money-bags, the dictatorship of the proletariat imposes a series of restrictions on the freedom of the oppressors, the exploiters, the capitalists…. In capitalist society we have a democracy that is curtailed, wretched, false, a democracy only for the rich, for the minority. The dictatorship of the proletariat, the period of transition to communism, will for the first time create democracy for the people, for the majority, along with the necessary suppression of the exploiters, of the minority.

The "soviet democracy" (also called "council democracy") was the professed aim of both Lenin and Leon Trotsky, and envisaged popularly elected soviets to rule directly over the whole populace. These soviets represented entire groups of people organized into homogeneous units, like the farmers in a collective or the workers in a factory. In other words, a soviet is a collective, and is the basis for the collectivization of an entire society. Collectivization, in turn, is just another word for regimentation; transforming a society into a system of soviet collectives, as the communists did in the Soviet Union, amounts to nothing more than the total regimentation of the populace. And this regimented society is a thoroughly politicized one where, truly, as Italy's Benito Mussolini once advocated, everything is within the state and nothing is outside of it.

But this is what democracy means as well, at least in its pure sense. In a society where, as in ancient Athens or revolutionary France, access for citizens to the deliberative, legislative, and executive functions of government is essentially unrestrained, all of human existence becomes a sordid political pageant. Politics becomes the absorbing concern of every citizen, to the exclusion of all other human activity, and allegiance to the state trumps all other human bonds. How could it be otherwise when every citizen is asked to shoulder all of the quotidian burdens of the legislator and the magistrate? The collectivist tyranny that took hold in the Soviet Union is the unavoidable result of democratic absolutism.

## Democracy in Communist China

The model pioneered by Lenin and Trotsky was adopted by Mao and the Chinese communists as well. The People's Republic of China officially refers to itself as a "socialist democracy with Chinese characteristics," and "democracy" has long been a catchword for the Chinese Communist Party. According to the China Media Project, "in the PRC, democracy refers to the Marxist-Leninist system of democratic dictatorship and democratic centralism, in which the CCP is the ultimate representative of the peoples." In fact, the Chinese term for its own system, *rénmínmínzhǔzhuānzhèng*, means literally "people's democratic dictatorship." Moreover, "democracy" is included among the 12 core socialist values promulgated by current dictator Xi Jinping since his rise to power in 2012. As it happens, China permits both elections and a plurality of political parties — but only at the local level, and all such political parties are required to have a "consultative" relationship with the Chinese Communist Party. This, of course, is the rub: Under China's constitution, the CCP is defined as the sole ruling party and ultimate source of authority, thereby render-

Bellish/Adobe Stock

**People power:** The American system includes popularly elected leaders, which is why so many have mischaracterized it as a democracy. But voters do not elect all of our leaders at the state and national level. And it is representation of the people by leaders bound by a constitution that distinguishes republics such as the United States from pure democracies.

ing nugatory all local parties and elected leaders, and eliminating any chance of changing power.

Yet China's dictator Xi Jinping regards China's "socialist democracy" as, in his own published words, "the most comprehensive, genuine and effective democracy." He and China's other communist leaders are quick to point out that features of Western so-called liberal democracy, such as separation of powers and constitutional limits on government power, are incompatible with the Chinese system.

## "Liberal" Democracy

It is frequently maintained that the flavors of democracy advocated by socialists and communists are not "real" democracy, or not democracy as understood by Western proponents of "liberal" democracy. But the term "liberal democracy" is an attempt to rehabilitate the notion of "democracy" to replace what should be more properly called "republicanism." Also, "liberal democracy" refers to the ongoing efforts on the part of latter-day progressives and other assorted leftists to transform the American republican form of government into something more proximate to the sort of democracy upheld by socialists and communists. In the United States, the movement toward liberal democracy has included, among many other things, the introduction of referenda, affirmative action, and the direct election of senators. It also currently includes the growing drives to eliminate the Electoral College, to impose congressional term limits, and to change the manner of voting into some type of "ranked choice" scheme, all of which are promoted as steps toward more "democratic" government.

The goal of a republican form of government is to create a government that generally reflects the will of the people — over a prudent interval — while protecting the rights of minorities. It also should frame laws in accordance with timeless principles of justice, and strictly define and limit the powers of the state. The goal of democracy, "liberal" or otherwise, is to create a government that is responsive to the will of the majority at any given moment, without any of the tempering influences of deliberation. It also embodies the principle, popularized during the French Enlightenment, that the voice of the people is the voice of God (*vox populi vox Dei*) — meaning that there can be no higher authority than the will of the collective majority.

The distinction between "liberal" democracy and "socialist" democracy is thus one of degree, not principle; indeed, it is no stretch to say that socialist democracy is merely liberal democracy in a hurry, or even that the end result of liberal democracy is socialist democracy. The reason is that democracy, whatever its professed aims, is fundamentally collectivist, majoritarian, and lawless. In its seemingly unappeasable thirst for so-called social justice, democracy inevitably ends up embracing socialist egalitarianism instead of equality under the law.

In fine, words do matter. The subtle shift in popular perception from republic to democracy is extremely consequential, and the confusion is deliberately encouraged by the Left, with its hodgepodge of "social democrats," "people's republics," and "democratic socialism." In modern discourse, both "democracy" and "republic" have been stripped of all meaningful features, so let us clarify anew what these two terms meant, in their original senses. Both democracies and republics are non-monarchical forms of popular government. Democracies are majoritarian, collectivist, and absolutely arbitrary where laws are concerned, whereas republics are individualist (in the sense of protecting individual rights, including the rights of minorities) and based on the rule of just law. Republics seek to safeguard God-given rights, while democracies seek to enforce the collective will. As a result, republics tend toward both public order and the liberty and well-being of the citizenry, while democracies tend to disorder and constitute the most baneful form of tyranny, the tyranny of the majority.

Democracy is and always has been the rallying cry of leftists, radicals, and would-be totalitarian collectivists. It is well past time for Americans to recognize that the old aphorism, popularized by Winston Churchill, to the effect that "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others," is five words too long. ■

## "The Second Amendment Won"

Fox News reported on November 13 about the sentiments of multiple gun-rights groups who were very satisfied with the outcome of the 2024 election. Aidan Johnston, the director of federal affairs for Gun Owners of America, told Fox News Digital, "I think the Second Amendment was on the ballot and the Second Amendment won. The American people clearly elected a pro-gun presidential ticket." He said that Republicans in Congress need to support the president and enact some of Donald Trump's campaign promises to further protect gun rights: "The American people have clearly given the president a mandate. He was elected on a pro-Second Amendment platform and Congress needs to deliver for the American people."

Randy Kozuch, executive director of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action, echoed those sentiments when he told Fox, "With President-elect Trump, gun owners across the country will once again have a strong advocate for their Second Amendment rights in the White House." He added that one of President Trump's first actions must be undoing the damage done by Joe Biden, noting that President Trump "pledged to roll back every attack from the Biden-Harris Administration on law-abiding gun owners and install an ATF Director who respects the Constitutional right to keep and bear arms."

## Grandfather Saves Grandkids

KCRA.com reported on November 24 out of Rancho Cordova, California, about a store owner who shot a burglar who broke in to his business while his grandchildren were there.

The man lives in the same building in which he operates his business, and had his grandchildren with him when someone tried breaking in overnight. The 70-year-old store owner was awakened by one of his grandchildren, who alerted him to the sound of loud banging. He retrieved a firearm and went to investigate, at which point the suspect kicked open a door to the business. The store owner said the suspect shined a flashlight at him as he barged into the store and rushed toward him. In fear for his life, the grandfather opened fire and mortally wounded the suspect, who ran from the store and collapsed nearby. Police were called to the scene and discovered the deceased suspect in the parking lot. The store owner later told KCRA, "The guy kicked the door. Boom, it was that quick…. We'd be dead. Because if he would have got my gun when I pulled it out…. Because he continued to go towards me. He wasn't afraid of me." When asked about how he felt about the deceased suspect, he expressed remorse but stated that he was compelled to act. "Am I upset about him? Yes. I didn't want him to break in, but I'm very happy that my [grandchildren] are alive."

Sergeant Amar Gandhi, public information officer at the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, told KCRA that the investigation is ongoing, but that this incident should serve as a warning to criminals who think they can break in to businesses without any repercussions. "Business owners don't want to be victims anymore, and they're taking their matters into their own hands. This isn't something that we're encouraging — vigilantism, by any stretch. But at the same time, you have to applaud him. He demonstrated restraint. He did what he had to do to protect the people inside, including himself" Gandhi told the station.

## Food Vendor Shoots Suspected Robber

CBS News reported on November 23 about a shootout that occurred around 9:00 p.m. in Chicago's Austin neighborhood. A local vendor was working at his food stand when he was approached by a man who got into a physical confrontation with him. The man pulled out a gun in an apparent robbery attempt, and the food vendor, who had a concealed-carry permit, responded by pulling out his own firearm. In an exchange of gunfire, the suspect was shot multiple times. The food vendor was also shot, but only suffered a non-life-threatening injury to his arm.

Authorities soon arrived on the scene, and both men were taken to a nearby medical facility for treatment. The suspect later succumbed to his wounds. Jacquetta Jones, a relative of the food vendor, told CBS News that the vendor had been working this job for almost a decade and that they believe he definitely acted in self-defense. "We are very confused as to why this would happen to him, but we understand that it's the holidays, and people do very strange things to come up on money," she said. The investigation is ongoing, but detectives are viewing it as an attempted robbery.

## "Using Deadly Force Should Be a Last Resort"

After a series of high-profile shootings in Columbus, Ohio, that pushed the boundaries of permissible armed self-defense, the *Columbus Dispatch* featured an interview on November 27 with a legal expert on the subject.

The first incident was a shooting in October, when a man saw a juvenile breaking the window on his car and yelled at him to stop, but then fired at the youth when he saw that the suspect was armed. The man was charged with felonious assault, but the case was ultimately dismissed. In another incident, a man saw on a security camera someone breaking in to the garage of his parents' home, so he went to the scene and confronted the burglar. He ultimately shot the suspect, although he told police the man "attempted to run" just prior to the shooting. No charges were filed in that situation. Both of these cases involve shootings that are on the edge of what is permissible under Ohio state law.

Ohio State University law Professor Ric Simmons said that under Ohio's stand-your-ground law, deadly force is not justified if there are reasonable alternatives. "You don't have to run, but if you have other options, then you do have to take those other options." He also stressed that it's never appropriate to use lethal force to protect personal property. ■

*— Patrick Krey*

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THE REVIEW

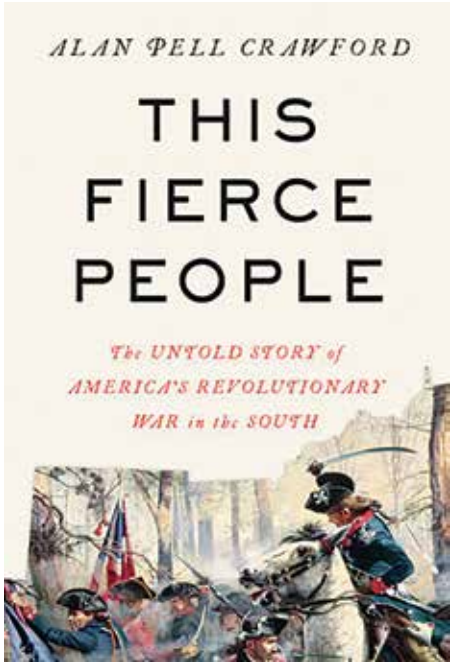
# A Fresh Assessment of the Southern War Before Yorktown

*by William P. Hoar*

***This Fierce People: The Untold Story of America's Revolutionary War in the South*,** by Alan Pell Crawford, New York: Knopf, 396 pages, hardcover.

Our account starts in 1780, years after what poet Ralph Waldo Emerson called the "shot heard round the world" and well after renowned Northern incidents and episodes, including Lexington/Concord, Bunker Hill, Washington crossing the Delaware, Saratoga, Valley Forge, and many more. Much time had gone by; the British still held New York and Philadelphia, and were headed toward a key Southern port in South Carolina — Charles Town (later known as Charleston). "The last battle in the North, the inconclusive clash at Monmouth, took place in June 1778, exactly two years earlier. After that," as the author puts it, "not much had happened, and the cause of independence seemed to have stalled."

George Washington, then in New Jersey, was trying to direct others to break the impasse in the South. So, too, were the British. The conflict, of course, was not just between American Continentals and




Redcoats from the mother country. As we read, the conflict was also being fought "with astonishing ferocity between 'partisans' fighting for independence and their 'loyalist' neighbors, in battles, skirmishes, and appalling acts of domestic terrorism. The South had its Molly Pitchers, too, and their stories need to be told."

The man doing the telling — compellingly — is historian Alan Pell Crawford, who has penned pieces for *American History*, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Times*. Crawford also regularly writes book reviews for *The Wall Street Journal*. His previous books have centered on, among others, Thomas Jefferson and Mark Twain. Another book (dated 1980) likely won't attract many of our readers: *Thunder on the Right: The "New Right" and the Politics of Resentment*, with a subtitle that gives away its proclivities. The book under review here, *This Fierce People: The Untold Story of America's Revolutionary War in the South*, on the other hand, should appeal to patriots seeking to better appreciate our struggles and roots. Crawford has been a resident scholar at the International Center for Jefferson Studies and Monticello, as well as at Mount Vernon.

The book's epigraph supplies the volume's title, quoting Edmund Burke's speech on conciliation with America in March 1775, before Lexington and Concord, in which that statesman and champion of conservatism (whom we meet later in this account) asserted: "We cannot, I fear, falsify the pedigree of *this fierce people*, and persuade them that they are not sprung from a nation in whose veins the blood of freedom circulates."

## Other Book Characteristics

Each headline for the various chapters, rather than using descriptions or dates selected by the author or publisher, features an (unattributed) excerpt of a remark made by a participant in that section, such as, for example, "The Most Tremendous Firing I Have Ever Heard." This, we later discover, was uttered by a militiaman from North Carolina about the roar of cannon during the key battle in Camden, South Carolina — a horrendous American defeat.

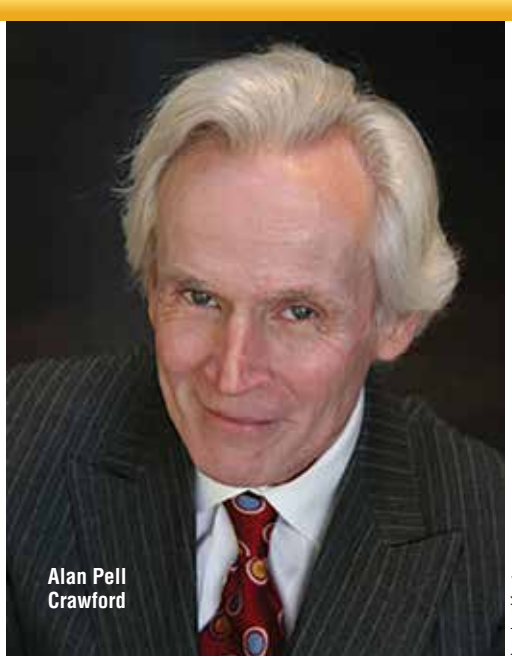
If these chapter titles are a bit indeterminate, kudos do go to the other aspects of the volume — a well-done index, plen-

tiful black-and-white illustrations, and eight pages of color photographs. Readers might want to mark the "Map of the Southern Campaign" in the book's early pages.

FYI: The cover shows detail from the painting *The Battle of Cowpens*, which depicts a major Continental victory in South Carolina (employing a "double-envelopment" tactic, though that terminology isn't used by Crawford) when Daniel Morgan and his men turned the flanks of Banastre Tarleton's British army.

Here's a small irritation. Book subtitles — generally used to underscore the volume's focal point — all too often claim (as this one does) that they will relate the "untold" story of "x." That's a pet peeve of this reviewer. True, the war in the South may well be a lesser-known part of the War for Independence, but the nine-page bibliography, many recounting these very events, does suggest that the "untold" moniker is a stretch.

Another quibble: Readers would also be better served if the dates used by the publisher more often included the year in question (as well as the days of the month).



Alan Pell Crawford

Louise Keeton

## Devastating Loss at Camden; Heartening Victory at Cowpens

Crawford, to his credit, is not what sportswriters sometimes call a "homer" — seeing only the best side of his favorite team. When there's a perceived error, be it within a battle or over strategies adopted, it is covered and clarified. We usually get to see both sides, as well as the interesting and key characters who aren't often considered star players. Adding to this objectivity is proper context — which is used by both the author and many of those cited by Crawford. The author, for instance, reminds us near the end of the book that the war in America was not the only conflict in which the British were taking part (giving details), and "arguably," in his words, was a "minor one at that."

John Adams, however, made the observation (and is cited doing so by Crawford) in 1784 that a "compleat history of the American war" would constitute "nearly the History of Mankind for the whole Epoch of it. The History of France, Spain, Holland, England, and the Neutral Powers, as well as America are at least comprised of it." It is decidedly not downplaying the significance of beating the world's most powerful military power when the author reminds us that America "could not have forced [General Charles] Cornwallis's surrender on the side of the Americans — without French support, including money, men, arms, and ships." You don't get to win the big game, one must say — to extend the sports metaphor — without getting help in the quarter-finals and the semis.

While the battle at Cowpens was a big American victory, it came after many that were not. That is a major part of the chronicle. We get to see both the losing and winning American commanders in the South. Indeed, even after losing at Camden, Horatio Gates continued to serve at George Washington's headquarters. This, however, led to Nathanael Greene's more successful stint as commander in the South, including the aforementioned clash at Cowpens.

## "Swamp Fox" Surmounts All Difficulties

It is said that history is to a nation what memory is to individuals. That, presumably, can be employed for good or for ill. *This Fierce People* is decidedly in the former category: I can't count how often the author reviewed some remarkable episode that elicited this thought: *Where do we get such people?* Crawford's volume, as he does point out, is not meant to debunk the war's beginnings or better-known events. He does contend, and succeeds in so doing, that fairness should make it clear that "the events of the Southern campaign, during the three-plus years that convinced the British to surrender, are as compelling as any of the most widely publicized events in the North."

"In battles too few Americans have even heard of," writes Crawford, "fought by armies commanded by largely unsung heroes, this book seeks to account for the American victory, the reason for which would otherwise remain a mystery." He unequivocally hits that target.

A review cannot replace the original, but we do want to give you a whiff of the battle smoke that pervades this excellent history — including this reviewer's thinking as soon as he picked up this book: When will we again meet the "Swamp Fox"? This of course is the nickname, apparently given posthumously, of Francis Marion, who has long been a personal favorite, dating back to schoolboy memories of the primeval age when kids read patriotic books.

It was during a gloomy time that much of the country first heard of Marion, as Crawford relates, "offering some faint flicker of hope after the dispiriting news from Camden." We are introduced properly in Chapter Twelve. This particular episode, in early September 1781, predates "The Battle of Black Mingo," for those keeping score at home. Marion, keep in mind, was a Continental soldier who led an exceedingly small force of militiamen.

## An "Ambuscade," Battle of Eutaw Springs, Yorktown

At this point, Marion's force had already attacked a loyalist camp and freed rebel prisoners. However, as we read, some of the prisoners "refused to acknowledge such a shabby liberator as Marion." Then "Marion's Men" hit again. As we read:

> A force of between two hundred and two hundred and fifty had been sent with explicit instructions to destroy him and his troops, and, with five times as many men as Marion had, the odds were clearly with the enemy. Marion decided to attack anyway.

By then, we had been introduced to, among others, one William Dobein James, who had joined Marion's band at age 15. Back to *This Fierce People*:

> Major John James — the father of William Dobein James — routed the loyalists' forty-five-man advance guard, and at dawn on September 4, Marion himself came on, galloping toward the main force of two hundred or so loyalists on the Little Pee Dee River. When Marion saw that the loyalists were forming to battle, he knew he could not surprise them.
>
> And so, James said [here quoting from his work titled *A Sketch of the Life of Brigadier General Francis Marion*], not wishing "to expose his men by an attack on equal terms," he "feigned a retreat, and led [the loyalists] into an ambuscade," where they were routed, with scores of the enemy fleeing into the swamps. "This was the first manoeuvre of this kind."

Not all encounters in the War for Independence turned out to be instructive for officers down the ages. One, exceedingly bloody, was downright odd. The Battle of Eutaw Springs in South Carolina in September of 1781 involved forces commanded by British Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Stewart and, on the American side, General Nathanael Greene. As we learn, the battle was indecisive, with both sides claiming victory — though, as Crawford tells it, it was not without significance: The British losses were horrendous, and they were finding it more difficult to replace the troops they were losing, and deserters from both sides fought each other.

By the time that fighting concluded (prematurely in part because of the weather), the "British had completely lost their grip on the Carolina interior. They still held Charles Town, but that was about it," writes the author.

Finally (or, more accurately, close to the end), is the siege and surrender at Yorktown on October 19, 1781. For the latter, Cornwallis, "saying he was ill, sent General Charles O'Hara in his place." The British commander had a "hard time accepting" the terms of surrender, with George Washington insisting, says the author, that "the same humiliations [the British] had inflicted eighteen months earlier" be inflicted on the leader of the defeated garrison at Charles Town.

Contrary to mythology, that was not the end of the war, although — as Crawford explains — no more major battles were fought "before the British finally departed, though there were skirmishes of note." In August 1782, with the British "treasury drained," London "first notified General Washington of its willingness to recognize the 'independency' of the colonies." In April 1783, Congress proclaimed an end to the war. "The Treaty of Paris was signed the following September, by which time Greene had dismissed his army and left South Carolina on his way north" for a meeting with Washington.

It was in New York, which had been vacated by the British two weeks earlier, that General Washington (on December 4, 1783), with "a heart full of love and gratitude," bid farewell to his officers. ■

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THE LAST WORD

# The Greatest Scam in History

*by John T. Larabell*

Al Gore
AP Images

I distinctly remember learning about climate change in elementary school in the 1980s. We students were terrified as our teachers informed us about the "greenhouse effect" and the fact that too much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would lead to dangerous warming of the Earth. What's more, they told us about an even-more-pressing threat, the "hole in the ozone layer." By running our refrigerators, we were destroying our only protection against dangerous ultraviolet radiation from the Sun. And don't forget "acid rain," brought on by pollution caused by too many people driving cars.

While in high school in the '90s, I remember being taught about global warming as fact. During my junior year, my chemistry teacher told us how we had hit "peak oil," and the world would run out of oil in the next few decades.

While in my early 20s, I didn't give much thought to these issues, but they were always in the back of my mind, as something that needed to be addressed "someday."

Then in 2007 I heard the late Rush Limbaugh explain to his audience why he didn't believe in global warming or any of the alleged pending climate catastrophes. He even mocked Al Gore's 2006 prediction that if we don't do something about global warming now, in 10 years "we're toast." I was genuinely surprised to hear Rush's contrarian view, since I honestly thought that everyone believed in catastrophic global warming.

I thought Rush's comments made sense, but then I read an online article from the BBC quoting "climate scientists" claiming that by 2012 (still five years off), the Arctic would be ice-free in the summer. This frightened me, and I remember thinking, "Wow, I guess global warming is real. Rush is wrong. This is bad news."

Fast-forward a few years to early 2012. I began reading *TNA* articles at thenewamerican.com, where I learned some facts about the global-warming hoax. By June 2012, I was working at *TNA* as a copy editor. A few months later, I had been thoroughly deprogrammed of the effects of the climate-change propaganda. And, lo and behold, while 2012 was a record low year for Arctic sea ice, the ice did not disappear. In fact, in 2013 the ice coverage was roughly 40 percent greater than in 2012. And, much to Al Gore's chagrin, the world did not end in 2016.

The idea that human emissions of carbon dioxide are causing catastrophic warming on the Earth is arguably the greatest hoax ever perpetrated in human history. It is perhaps the greatest "Big Lie" ever promulgated by governments, in concert, around the world. As *The New American* has so accurately documented, literally none of the disaster predictions of so-called climate scientists has come true. Not one. What's more, many of the arguments put forth by these "scientists" and then echoed by governments and NGOs the world over are simply illogical and unscientific on their face.

Yet the lies and propaganda persist. The globalists at the UN are still holding their climate conferences, meeting in luxurious accommodations after being flown in on private jets. As we outline in our cover story package in this issue of *The New American*, this year's Conference of the Parties (COP29) was business as usual: more hysteria, more doom and gloom, and more calls for developed countries to fork over trillions of dollars that will only end up enriching the global elites. It's really just a massive, worldwide extortion racket: Pay up, or you're all doomed!

More than a racket, though, the whole climate-change ideology has become a religion for many people, taking the place of traditional faith systems. Indeed, many adherents to this green religion live out their faith with remarkable zeal, taking any new climate pronouncement at face value and refusing to even listen to evidence proving their worldview wrong.

The best way to combat this scam, and end it once and for all, is the same way one stops any other scam: by spreading the truth. The success of the elites in implementing their climate agenda depends on a vast majority of the world's people believing the lie. Once enough people see the truth, the entire hoax will come crashing down like a house of cards. ■

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## The Life and Words of Robert Welch

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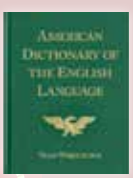


Noah Webster's dictionary defines words as they were understood during the Founding Era (making it a prerequisite to understanding America's founding documents) and within a biblical context. Facsimile of the original. (2,000pp, hb, 1-4/$74.95ea; 5+/$70.95ea) **BKD1828**

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